

The Advent
REVIEW *and Sabbath*
HERALD
 GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF
 THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Partial Report of the Nominating Committee

Wednesday morning, May 26, at the fourth meeting of the 1954 General Conference session the Nominating Committee rendered another partial report:

For secretary of the General Conference, W. R. Beach; for treasurer of the General Conference, C. L. Torrey.

Both were duly elected.

Walter R. Beach, the newly elected secretary, has served the church for many years in Europe as secretary and then president of the Southern European Division. He brings to his new work a wide experience with many nationalities and a broad knowledge of non-Christian lands.

C. L. Torrey has already served the world field as treasurer for one quadrennium after many years of varied service in both home and foreign divisions.

The following partial report of the Nominating Committee was presented

and duly voted at the fifth meeting of the General Conference session, May 26:

Division Presidents

Vice-President of the General Conference for North America: W. B. Ochs.

President of the Inter-American Division: Glenn Calkins.

President of the Middle East Division: G. J. Appel.

President of the Northern European Division: A. F. Tarr.

President of the Central European Division: Wilhelm Müller.

President of the Southern African Division: R. S. Watts.

President of the Far Eastern Division: F. A. Mote.

Departmental Secretaries

Statistical Secretary: H. W. Klaser.

Educational Secretary: E. E. Cossentine.

Home Missionary Secretary: T. L. Oswald.

Temperance Secretary: W. A. Scharffenberg.

Medical Secretary: T. R. Flaiz, M.D.

Radio and Television Secretary: E. R. Walde.

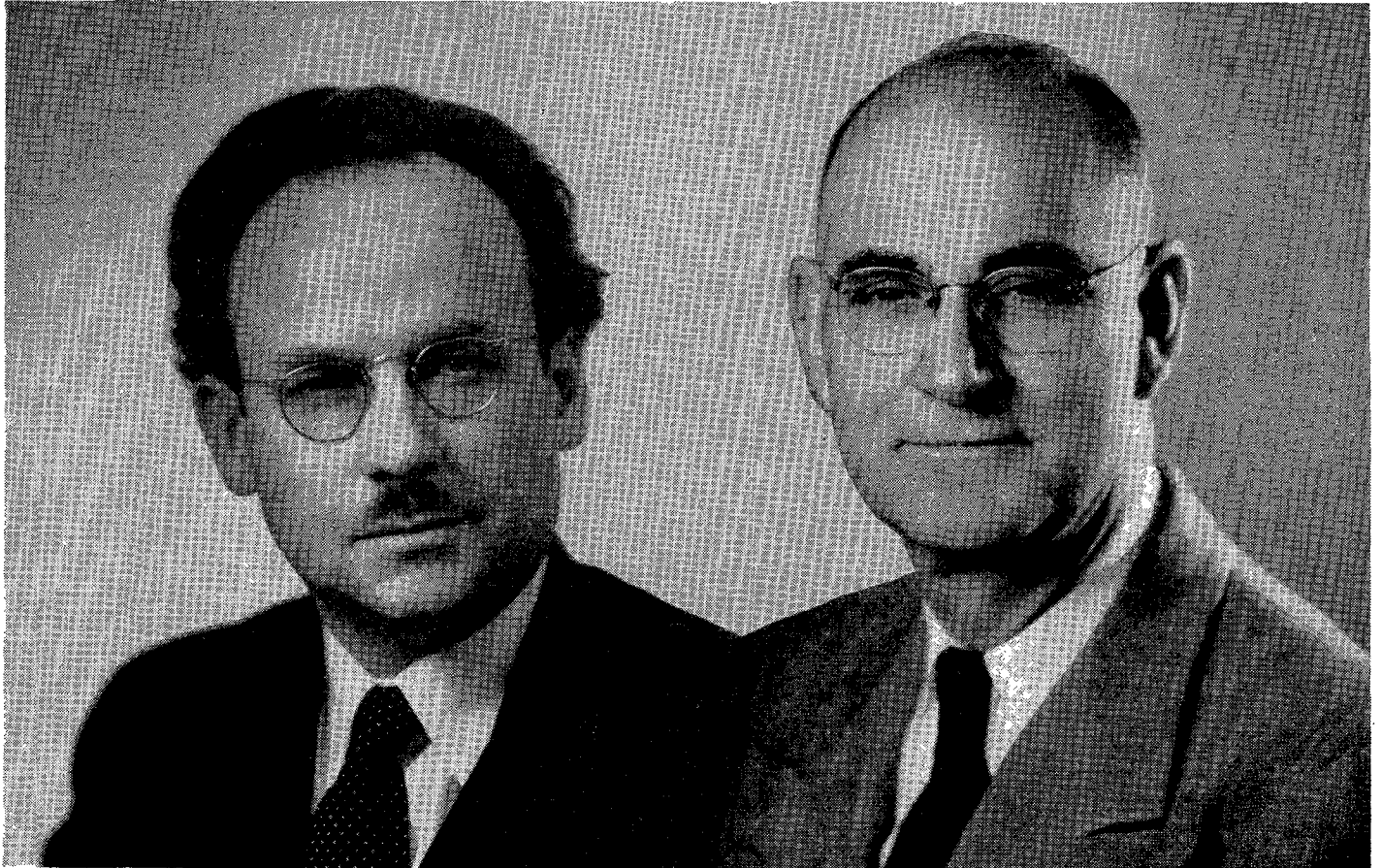
Religious Liberty Secretary: A. W. Johnson.

Sabbath School Secretary: L. L. Moffitt.

Missionary Volunteer Secretary: E. W. Dunbar.

Publishing Secretary: G. A. Huse.

[Pictures of these who have been elected appear on pages 50 to 53 with the exception of L. L. Moffitt whose picture appears in connection with his report on page 57.]



Left: W. R. Beach elected secretary of the General Conference. Right: C. L. Torrey re-elected treasurer of the General Conference.

HIGH LIGHTS of the DAY

Our Reporter's Story for Wednesday, May 26

By H. M. TIPPETT

After the stirring events of the first full day of the conference, featuring a period of fasting and prayer, a dramatic review of the progress of the work for the past quadrennium and the election of R. R. Figuhr to the presidency of the General Conference, it might seem that any ordinary meeting in the evening would only provide an anticlimax. But there is nothing ordinary about the Advent Movement, as R. H. Pierson, president of the Southern Asia Division, and his co-workers proved in their thrilling presentation of the work and workers in that vast field.

The evening program was introduced as usual by a wonderful piece of music under the direction of J. Wesley Rhodes of the music department of Union College. Soloists who have pleased other notable gatherings of the church are here to lend their talent to the success of this great meeting, and Sunny Liu opened tonight's song service with a beautiful rendition of "I Dreamed I Searched Heaven for You." The choir and the Goldenaires of Golden Gate Academy sang with fervor and rich

harmony "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," and "Our Prayers Ascend to Thee." The tender strains of a violin number by J. J. Hafner, of Pacific Union College, brought a hush over the vast congregation that was filling the auditorium to the very supports of the dome, a hundred feet above the main floor. Appropriate to the theme of the great mission exercise about to begin, the Goldenaires sang "Heavenly Light."

As D. W. Hunter, president of the Northeast Union Mission, dressed in the native garb of his district, stepped to the speaker's desk, the lights of the arena, housed in huge golden chandeliers hanging from the ceiling, were dimmed and the auditorium was in semidarkness. But this was not the way Brother Hunter had planned it at all, for the procession of workers from the Southern Asia Division was about to begin, and he smilingly waved a signal to the man at the switchboard to turn on the lights full blaze. It is a tribute to those who planned the lighting and protection devices for this session to see how easily and with what precision these things are controlled.

Then with the characteristic tempo of the music of old India, reminiscent of temple drum and pagoda bells in the shadow of the towering Himalayas, the organ began its processional march. In quiet expectancy the audience gazed earnestly toward the doors of the main aisle where, it was announced, the workers of the Southern Asia Division in attendance at the conference would appear. And such a procession as it was. First came retired laborers who had served in the heat of the day, some of whom are still at work in this country. For example, S. A. Wellman, Elder and Mrs. J. S. James, Elder and Mrs. E. L. Meleen, Elder and Mrs. I. F. Blue, Mrs. G. F. Enoch, and Mrs. Little. Then came former missionaries now in responsible places in the homeland, such as C. L. Torrey, A. L. Ham, E. B. Hare, all of the General Conference staff. Following them came evangelists, educators, nurses, and doctors currently bearing the burden of the work in all this great area. Finally, mingled among them, young people and children full of vigor and anticipation at having a part in the work in the days just ahead, all of them in every group dressed in some form of native costume. From India, Burma, Pakistan, and Ceylon they came; from jeweled cities, nurtured by holy rivers, Bombay, Cal-

cutta, and Rangoon, teeming with multitudes of restless people from the lush paddies and parched plains of equatorial lands and from the snowbound mountains of Tibet; from the storied vale of Kashmir and the famous Taj Mahal. Slowly the procession moved down the aisle and up onto the platform, their brightly colored apparel accented by weird headdress or umbrella or brass urn carried on the head in native fashion. They came in family groups and by scores until the emotions of the audience were moved to quiet tears of joy and pride and renewed consecration. Brother Hunter identified many of the workers as they appeared on the platform.

A. L. Ham, former president of the Southern Asia Division, now one of the field secretaries of the General Conference, offered the opening prayer. As the procession again moved off the platform, J. F. Ashlock, secretary of the Southern Asia Division, reviewed in brief the territories from which they came. The illuminated map of the world, which was introduced at the morning session, was blinking out its wonderful message of progress decade by decade while this part of the exercise was going on. A benign face of Christ against the backdrop made solemn the inscription in royal blue letters above it, "Behold I come." It was a wonderful hour.

Brother Pierson presented his report with the aid of a motion picture in color. What remarkable providence it is that these modern inventions can be turned to the report of the advance of the gospel. Here the people for whom our missionaries labor were brought before our eyes at the plow, in the city market, or in the hovels that speak of their great need.



W. B. Ochs re-elected vice-president of the General Conference for North America.



Glenn Calkins re-elected president of the Inter-American Division.



G. J. Appel re-elected president of the Middle East Division.

Schools and hospitals and mission headquarters provided by our mission offerings were made vivid with the characteristic activities in which they are engaged.

While the report was going forward, some of the workers featured in the pictures were spotlighted at one side of the platform, the colored lenses making their peculiar garb glow with a radiance most appealing. Highlighted in this way was a typical Mohammedan call to prayer, presented by A. M. Akbar, of the West Pakistan Union Mission, who later gave his testimony as recorded below. A song in the Tamil language was sung by I. K.

Moses, of the South India Union Mission; and testimonies were given by M. S. Prasada Rao, secretary-treasurer of the North-east India Union Mission, and Pein Gyi, secretary-treasurer of the Burma Union.

Said Brother Akbar:

"Fellow believers of my country Pakistan send you their warm and heartfelt greetings. We thank you very much for what you good people have done for us. I wish I had enough time to tell you about all that the Lord has done for a young man of Pakistan, whose conversion story I am going to relate now.

"This young man, living far north in that land, was once sent by his father on an errand. While on the way to his destination he learned that Jesus Christ was the Redeemer of the world. He disliked Christianity and everything associated with it. But he was induced to accept a copy of the Bible. On accepting it he



R. S. Watts re-elected president of the Southern African Division.

began to study it. Every day he would go out into the jungle and read a portion from it and then hide it and come home. He had had many good experiences in the things of God, though not fully understanding them. As this young man was convinced that this was the truth and that he must accept it if he wanted to be saved, he had to flee from his home because of his father's wrath. He found a place in the city of Lahore, and finally was sent to our mission school. There he learned more of the truth and accepted Christ as his personal Saviour.

"Now that young man is standing before you and bearing testimony to the fact that the Lord is good and kind and that missions do pay. The Lord is working wonders in these countries, winning people to His kingdom.

"Thank you very much, dear people, for your kind prayers and your good means



Wilhelm Mueller re-elected president of the Central European Division.

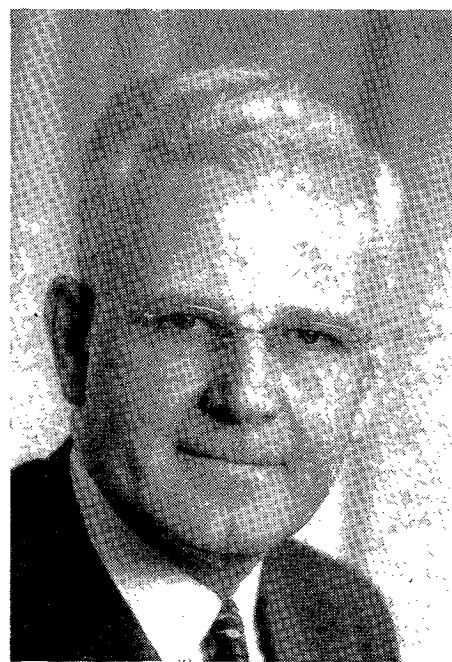
you have given to preach the message to us. May the Lord bless you all."

And here is the testimony of Brother Prasada Rao.

"After my parents accepted the truth forty years ago they sent me as a small boy to the Seventh-day Adventist mission school just started in Bangalore by Elder and Mrs. Meleen. After completion of my schooling there I entered denominational work as a stenographer in the South India Union office. After that I worked for a little while in the office of Dr. Flaiz, who was then the president of the Telugu Mission. I worked then in the Burma Union Mission, and after that



A. F. Tarr re-elected president of the Northern European Division.



F. A. Mote elected president of the Far Eastern Division.



G. A. Huse re-elected secretary of the Publishing Department.

I was transferred to the division office and worked under C. L. Torrey, who was then the division secretary-treasurer. He taught me bookkeeping. After that I was at Spicer College and taught for five years. Subsequently I came back to the division office, and it was my pleasure to work for ten years as the assistant auditor of the Southern Asia Division. For the last two and a half years I have been working in the office of the secretary-treasurer.

"We are grateful for the opportunities given us to develop, and in appreciation we want to dedicate ourselves to the Lord to be what He wants us to be, to go where

He wants us to go, and if need be to lay down our lives for the cause we all love."

Said Pein Gyi:

"About fifty years ago my father came over from China to Burma. As a young man he was engaged in the construction of a building in our school at Meiktila. The influence of such consecrated missionaries had its effect, and he was converted. My mother had been a Buddhist and was slow in accepting the message. After seven years of struggle in her heart she was at last converted. I was converted in the year 1925 and have been in the mission service since 1931. After attending our mission school at Meiktila I served as bookkeeper in our mission office. After a few months' work in our schools I received an appointment as a union treasurer.

"During the enemy invasion back in 1942 we evacuated from Rangoon to the



E. E. Cossentine re-elected secretary of the Department of Education.

mountains in South Burma. When we were cut off from the rest of the world, and Christians were closely watched and sometimes persecuted, I thanked God for His protection and care throughout the occupation period. I was able to make some contact with workers in the country and had to work under difficult circumstances. We dedicate ourselves to the finishing of the work of God in Burma and also in taking the truth to those who do not know Christ."

Concluding his report Elder Pierson gave repeated emphasis to a phrase that made a deep appeal to every heart—"God tomorrow." Somehow the meaning left a deep impression upon us that with consecrated men and women like these, great things may be expected in the tomorrow of this movement, and there was the united Amen that all who could might respond to the appeal in the closing song,



Elmer Walde re-elected secretary of the Radio and Television Department.

"Answer the Call, Ye Brave Men" by the King's Heralds of the Voice of Prophecy.

This morning the bracelet of light that marked the path of the great Bay Bridge to Oakland was fading into the dawn as I arose and took the bracing walk to the Civic Center, where electricians and property men of the American Broadcasting Company had been working all night to prepare the platform for the live telecast of Faith for Today, scheduled for this afternoon. One would hardly believe there could be such a transformation in twelve hours. But more of this in the report of the program.



T. R. Flaiz, M.D., re-elected secretary of the Medical Department.



T. L. Oswald re-elected secretary of the Home Missionary Department.



A. W. Johnson re-elected secretary of the Religious Liberty Department.

This morning just before the devotional service I went into the room where the music committee holds its daily prayer service. H. M. S. Richards of the Voice of Prophecy had just come in. He was greeted with warm handshakes and embraces by some of the men who had worked with him in days gone by. He was to bring the devotional message for the morning, so hurried on for his appointment.

Several times the King's Herald's quartet had sung at the conference and with increasing favor. The morning meeting began the day with the song "Once My Way Was Dark and Dreary." Del Delker,



H. W. Klaser re-elected statistical secretary.

formerly with the Voice of Prophecy, came from Emmanuel Missionary College, which she has been attending this year, to sing at the conference. Her rendition of the solo "My Father Is Omnipotent" provided the right mood for the devotional study by Elder Richards on one of his favorite themes, "The Grace of God."

One of the interesting side lights this morning was the group of Spanish brethren over on the right side of the auditorium who received the message of the morning through an interpreter. I can understand the difficulty of some of these dear workers in knowing what is being said, for I put my arm around one Juan Ayala, director of the Collana Mission of Bolivia, yesterday and asked him what he thought of the conference. He could only explain that he didn't speak English, but his filling eyes told me the story of his joy at being here.

During the morning business session brief legal meetings were held by the General Conference Corporation, General Conference Association, and the North American Conference Corporation. One of the items of business in which the interest of the delegates naturally centered was the second partial report of the Nominating Committee. These men, sitting for long hours on the committees, perform some of the hardest work of the conference. W. R. Beach, president of the Southern European Conference, was elected secretary of the General Conference, succeeding D. E. Rebok, and C. L. Torrey was re-elected treasurer of the General Conference.

A colored motion picture film of South America scheduled for the afternoon session was presented this morning to make way for the arrangements for the Faith for Today telecast. W. E. Murray, president of the South American Division, with the aid of his co-workers, has put together in this film one of the most panoramic pictures of missions ever to be shown on the screen. It was full of human interest from beginning to end. A kaleidoscope of color in action, it transported the audience from the beautiful rivers of Paraguay to the poncho country of Chile with its frequent rains and lush vegetation, from the southernmost city in the world on the tip of the continent to the high Andes, where Elder Stahl, beloved apostle to the Indians, labored. Like its sister continent to the north, South America may boast of its modern electrified cities and industrial settlements, but because of its religious background a poverty of culture and a primitive attitude toward life beset the people in many of the back country districts. In contrast to these are the churches and institutions of the Advent faith that bring to such groups the inspiration of a new hope not only in days to come but in the management of their lives for the passing days.

The largest afternoon attendance yet assembled gathered for the telecast of two programs of Faith for Today. During the preceding night the American Broadcasting Company had arranged the large platform of the auditorium for producing the picture as it would if staged in one of their studios. The background for the telecast, called "Oak Props," included two furnished rooms, a porch with wooden



E. W. Dunbar re-elected secretary of the Missionary Volunteer Department.

pillars, a brick wall, and a stone hedge surrounded by real shrubs and trees brought into the stadium.

Back of these a mobile ABC truck, loaded with electronic equipment, had been driven into the wall to accommodate the transmission. The equipment comprised numerous high-powered lights, projectible microphones, and two TV cameras, switchboard, and what seemed like miles of electric cable.

In the hour preceding the scheduled program, rehearsals were staged, to which the audience was invited. It was a source

(Continued on page 63)



W. A. Scharffenberg re-elected Temperance secretary.

The Gospel of Grace

DEVOTIONAL STUDY, MAY 26, 1954, 8:30 A.M.

By H. M. S. RICHARDS

The apostle Paul speaks of "the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ" (Rom. 15:29). The Gospel of Mark opens with these words: "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (Mark 1:1). In the very next verse we read, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee."

This prophecy was fulfilled in John. Jesus appeared and was baptized. When He came up out of the waters of the Jordan the Holy Ghost came upon Him in bodily form as a dove, and the voice of God announced that Jesus was His Son. Then the Saviour immediately began His public ministry saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel" (verse 15).

The gospel is the message of the kingdom of heaven, or the kingdom of God. The two terms are synonymous. In Matthew the phrase, "kingdom of heaven," is used thirty-two times. Matthew's gospel was intended originally for the Jews. The other Gospel writers, having more to do with the Gentile readers, use the term "the kingdom of God." In Luke the phrase is used thirty-two times. (Compare Matthew 13:31 with Luke 13:18 and onward.) That the kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God are exactly the same is proved by the comparison of several parallel passages—for instance, Matthew 4:17 with Mark 1:15; Matthew 5:3 with Luke 6:20. There are many other parallel passages of this nature.

John the Baptist was the herald of the kingdom. He said, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 3:2).

The Son of Man and His Kingdom

Then Jesus appeared, and the King Himself took the place of the herald. In His person the kingdom of God had come among men. In Luke 17:21 He said, "The kingdom of God is within you," or "among you," as the margin reads. When Jesus appeared He designated Himself "the Son of man." This title occurs eighty times in the Gospels, and its root is in the book of Daniel. In Daniel 7:13, 14, we read, "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom."

This is a prophecy that the kingdom would be given to the Son of man. Jesus described Himself as the Messiah who would come in the clouds of heaven to establish His kingdom. He applied this prophecy to Himself in His great discourse on the Mount of Olives (Matt. 24:30) and also in His oath before the high council of the Jewish nation, when

He said, "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven" (Matt. 26:64).

This title, "Son of man," is a royal one. It is used in connection with references to Christ's coming in power and glory, such as "The Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father" (Matt. 16:27). "The Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory" (Matt. 19:28).

The kingdom of God existed in Israel, preparing the way for salvation; but it was taken away from its possessors and given to others (Matt. 21:43). Then there was the kingdom of God which was personally present in Christ, when He was among men, performing His wonderful works (Luke 17:21). The Bible also refers to His kingdom revealed in the church (Col. 1:13); and finally the coming of the kingdom in glory.

All of these are but phases of the kingdom of God, or the kingdom of heaven. All the great truths of God for men belong to the gospel of the kingdom (Mark 1:14, 15). It is always the same kingdom. It comes out of Heaven's eternity, continues through the ages of earthly time, and runs again into God's eternity.

The gospel, or message, of the kingdom has various names. It is called the "gospel of the kingdom" which "shall be preached in all the world" in this generation (Matt. 24:14). That preaching is itself one of the greatest signs of the times in which we live.

It is called "the gospel of Jesus Christ" (Mark 1:1), because He preached it and proclaimed it to the world. It is called "the gospel of God," for He is the source of it (Rom. 1:1). It is called "the gospel of His Son," because it is the message of God concerning His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 1:9). It also is called "the gospel of Christ" (Rom. 1:16). The apostle Paul calls it "my gospel," because he preached it more than any other man of his day (Rom. 2:16). It is called "the glorious gospel of Christ" in 2 Corinthians 4:4, because glory surrounds it and its whole message is a message of glory and eternal hope.

It is called "the gospel of your salvation" in Ephesians 1:13, because it is the means of salvation and the message of salvation. It is called "the gospel of peace" in Ephesians 6:15, because it declares God's peace with man, made by Jesus at the cross. It is called "the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" in 2 Thessalonians 1:8. It is called "our gospel" in 2 Thessalonians 2:14. It is called "the gospel of the blessed God" in 1 Timothy 1:11. In Revelation 14 it is spoken of in all its fullness as "the everlasting gospel" (verse 6), which covers the ages from the time sin entered the world until sin is abolished. It carries with it the glorious promise of an earth made new.

Acts 20, verse 17 and onward, records how the apostle Paul briefly rehearsed to the elders of the church of Ephesus the experience he had with them. He declared that he had kept nothing back that was profitable unto them. He had testified to both Jews and Greeks repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Now he was going up to Jerusalem, not knowing what things should befall him, but certain that afflictions awaited him. He told them that he would see their face no more, and that he was pure from the blood of all men, because he had not shunned to declare unto them all the counsel of God (verse 27).

After describing the threatening things that were just before him, he said, "But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."

These words reveal what Paul considered his ministry to be. He had been appointed by the Lord Jesus Christ "to testify the gospel of the grace of God." In verse 21 he says that he had preached to them "repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." He had told both Jew and Gentile how they might be saved, how they might make peace with God, how they might enter the kingdom of God. This is the gospel of the kingdom, the everlasting gospel, the gospel of grace, the gospel of the grace of God.

Only One Gospel Message

It is well for us to notice right here that there is but one gospel. The apostle condemns the Galatians for turning away from the gospel of God's grace to "another gospel" which was really not a gospel. False teachers had arisen among them, declaring that they must find salvation through their own works and not through the grace of God.

Listen to these mighty words: "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:6-9).

So you see, my friends, this gospel of grace is of great importance—in fact, the most important message in all this world. It is spoken of as "the grace of Christ." We are saved, not by the gospel *plus* something that we do, or that somebody else does. We are not saved by the gospel *plus* the Ten Commandments, the gospel *plus* healthful living, the gospel *plus* doing this or doing that. If we were, it would not be a gospel of grace but a gospel of works and grace, or a gospel of just plain works. Such a thing would be "another gospel," which is not *the* gospel, and would come under the curse of the apostle.

"The principle that man can save him-

self by his own works, lay at the foundation of every heathen religion. . . . Wherever it is held, men have no barrier against sin. . . . They robbed God of His glory, and defrauded the world by a counterfeit of the gospel. . . . They had ceased to look beyond the symbol to the thing signified. In presenting the sacrificial offerings they were as actors in a play."—*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 35, 36.

Now notice, it is one gospel. It is "the gospel of God," for God is its source (Rom. 1:1; 15:16). And it is rightly called "the gospel of Christ," as we read in Romans 15:19, for Christ is its mediator. It is "the gospel of grace," for grace is its very soul—God's unmerited favor, God's love, God's creative and redemptive power, for grace includes all these things. It is "the gospel of your salvation," for salvation is the gift it brings (Eph. 1:13). It is "the gospel of the kingdom," for God's kingdom is its goal (Matt. 4:23). And by accepting it we become citizens of His kingdom of grace right now in this world and subjects for the kingdom of glory still to come, which really is a phase of the same kingdom. It is called "the glorious gospel," for glory is its whole effect and its final effect (1 Tim. 1:11). And Paul says of himself and his fellow workers, it is "my gospel" (Rom. 16:25), "our gospel" (2 Cor. 4:3), because they were the messengers of the gospel.

When our Lord appeared in this world, "the grace of God was upon him" (Luke 2:40). And not only so, but He was "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). The law of Moses, which was "a compacted prophecy of the gospel," was proclaimed in Old Testament times; but when Jesus came, grace and truth came by Him (John 1:17). In plain, clear light the gospel of God's grace was made known to men.

Only Hope for Sinful Man

Now, the gospel of God's grace is this: Men are sinners—you're a sinner; I'm a sinner—"for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). The glory of God is His righteousness, and His righteousness is revealed in His holy law, "for all thy commandments are righteousness" (Ps. 119:172). When man sinned he lost that glory. Sin is the transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4). Man became a rebel, breaking the law of the King of the universe. In his fallen condition he "is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Rom. 8:7). That is why no man can work out his own salvation in his own strength. It is impossible for a fallen, sinful human being to live a holy, divine life in merely human strength. The gospel is an offer of free pardon. It is the gospel of grace.

"The wages of sin is death," we read

in Romans 6:23. Therefore death has "passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12). So man naturally is in a hopeless condition, condemned to death by the righteous condemnation and judgment of God. The execution of that judgment could take place any moment.

But what do we see now—a messenger coming, holding something in his hand. God's own Son has volunteered to take the place of the rebels and become sin for these sinners. He has to be identified with sin itself, though he is "holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners" (Heb. 7:26). He is willing to become "sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor. 5:21). And God, the King, is willing to accept the sacrifice of His own Son. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Thus the Son of God comes and takes our place. He mounts the place of execution. We see the shadow of a cross arise upon a lonely hill, and He dies in our place. He "died for our sins according to the scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:3)—predicted by the prophets in the first prophecy in Genesis 3:15, illustrated in the sacrificial offerings of the sanctuary of old, and now fulfilled before the waiting universe. This is grace, grace in action.

Grace is more than sympathy. It's more than sorrow for man's sins. Grace is the will to suffer for man, the will to give for man, the power to regenerate lost man, the divine, redeeming love of God in Christ Jesus. This is His grace.

Justified by His Grace

And what is our part? Our part is to accept it, believe it. We free moral agents are to turn to Him, to forsake our egotism, our pride, and humble ourselves at the foot of the cross of Christ and cry, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). There, "being justified freely by his grace," "we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 3:24; 5:1).

"It is the gospel of the grace of God alone that can uplift the soul. The contemplation of the love of God manifested in His Son, will stir the heart and arouse the powers of the soul as nothing else can. Christ came that He might recreate the image of God in man; and whoever turns men away from Christ, is turning them away from the source of true development; he is defrauding them of the hope and purpose and glory of life. He is a thief and a robber."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 478.

Now, do not say: "I do not see how God's grace can extend to me. I am too great a sinner; it wouldn't be justice." My friends, it wouldn't be justice if God didn't forgive you and redeem you. Christ has paid the full price for all your sins. Therefore, God can "be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus" (Rom. 3:26). The apostle Paul tells us in Romans 5:20 that where sin abounds, grace doth much more abound. Is your sin abounding? In the night watches do you cry out: "O God, forgive my sin. It stares me in the face; it is ever before me?"

Nominating Committee

At the close of the morning devotional service, Tuesday, May 25, the following announcement regarding Nominating Committee personnel was made:

Southern Asia

D. S. Johnson, C. B. Guild.

Far East

H. D. Johnson, F. R. Millard, C. W. Lee, J. M. Nerness, M. C. Warren, Gil de Guzman.

Middle East

N. C. Wilson, R. H. Hartwell.

Central Europe

O. Gmehling, R. Dettmar, S. Christoffers, O. Brozio.

South China Island Union Mission

Milton Lee.

Northern Europe

A. Lohne, W. W. Armstrong, C. Gidland, J. O. Gibson.

Southern Europe

F. Lavanchy, A. Lorencin, L. Schneebauer, L. Beer, D. G. Rose, C. Monnier, M. Lourinho, A. Cosendai.

General Conference Institutions

E. D. Dick, I. J. Woodman, Dr. W. E. Macpherson, Dr. Robert Hare, W. H. Teesdale, J. D. Snider, I. E. Gillis.

Inter-America

C. G. Gordon, C. O. Franz, G. C. Nickle, E. J. Lorntz, A. C. Stockhausen, F. S. Thompson, S. E. White, Jorge Escandon.

North America

L. E. Lenheim, W. A. Nelson, M. V. Campbell, Don Rees, D. A. Ochs, C. J. Coon, W. H. Shephard, M. L. Rice, G. E. Hutches, C. M. Bunker, J. D. Smith, C. A. Scriven, T. Carcich, C. L. Bond, C. L. Bauer, R. R. Bietz, R. C. Baker, R. R. Breitigam, Carl Becker, V. G. Anderson, W. W. Fordham, R. H. Nightingale, L. C. Evans.

Australasia

T. C. Lawson, W. G. Turner, H. White.

South America

Alfredo Aeschlimann, R. A. Wilcox, R. L. Jacobs, L. B. Halliwell, M. S. Nigri, F. C. Webster.

Southern Africa

K. F. Ambs, W. D. Eva, S. G. Maxwell, E. D. Hanson, A. W. Staples, A. W. Austen, Dr. S. A. Kotz, A. J. Raitt, V. Robinson, I. E. Shultz.

Remember, God has set our iniquities before His face, our secret sins in the light of His countenance (Ps. 90:8). How can we meet a high, pure, holy, and righteous God with these dark sins upon us? We can meet Him only in Christ, if we accept the Saviour as our Redeemer. If He died for us, it is the same as if we died.

My friends, you can be free; you may be free now. "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof" (Rom. 6:12).

Declare your independence in Christ. Do not go on living in sin. "For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace" (Rom. 6:14).

No More Condemnation

The law no more condemns you. It condemns only the sinner and declares him subject to death; but, when Christ has borne the sin for you, then the law has no more hold upon you, with its claim of sin. What shall we do then? "Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid," says the apostle in Romans 6:1, 2. We are to live the new life. The Holy Spirit in us lives the very righteousness of Christ which the law demands.

That is what God's grace will do for you, friends. And not only will your sins be forgiven, but you will be justified, and through grace you may be sanctified and given the power to live the Christian life day by day.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own

Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Rom. 8:1-4).

The fruitage of the gospel of grace is obedience in the life, as made clear in this passage and also in the book of James. The Christian walk, or life, is in the power of the Holy Spirit.

In England in the days of John Wesley "the great doctrine of justification by faith, so *clearly taught by Luther*, had been almost wholly lost sight of; and the . . . principle of trusting to good works for salvation, had taken its place. Whitefield and the Wesleys, who were members of the established church, were sincere seekers for the favor of God, and this they had been taught was to be secured by a virtuous life and an observance of the ordinances of religion.

Wesley's Experience

"When Charles Wesley at one time fell ill, and anticipated that death was approaching, he was asked upon what he rested his hope of eternal life. His answer was, 'I have used my best endeavors to serve God.' As the friend who had put the question seemed not to be fully satisfied with his answer, Wesley thought, 'What! are not my endeavors a sufficient ground of hope? Would he rob me of my endeavors? I have nothing else to trust to.' Such was the *dense darkness* that had settled down on the church, hiding the atonement, robbing Christ of His glory, and turning the minds of men from *their only hope of salvation,—the blood of the crucified Redeemer.*"—*The Great Controversy*, pp. 253, 254. (Italics supplied.)

Wesley had tried "through long years of wearisome and comfortless striving,—years of rigorous self-denial, of reproach and

humiliation,—Wesley had steadfastly adhered to his one purpose of seeking God. Now he had found Him; and he found that the grace which he had toiled to win by prayers and fasts, by almsdeeds and self-abnegation, was a gift, 'without money, and without price.'

"Once established in the faith of Christ, his whole soul burned with the desire to spread everywhere a knowledge of the glorious gospel of God's free grace. . . .

"He continued his strict and self-denying life, not now as the *ground*, but as the *result* of faith; not the *root*, but the *fruit* of holiness. The grace of God in Christ is the foundation of the Christian's hope, and that grace will be manifested in obedience. Wesley's life was devoted to the preaching of the great truths which he had received,—justification through faith in the atoning blood of Christ, and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit upon the heart, bringing forth fruit in a life conformed to the example of Christ."

—*Ibid.*, p. 256.

Romans 8:1-4 is a long passage, but it contains a truth for time and for eternity. This is the gospel of the grace of God. Will you accept it? It is a gift, for we read in Ephesians 3:7 that it is the "gift of the grace of God." What a wonderful gift! And this gift is offered to all men everywhere. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:11-13).

Remember, by the grace of God, Jesus tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9). It is in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that you and I are redeemed. This is the gospel of the kingdom; this is the glorious message, the wonderful ministry, that was given to the apostle Paul, and that is given to every Christian minister. Are we preaching it? First of all, are we receiving it, accepting it, glorying in it, rejoicing in it, redeemed in it? It is the one and only hope of lost men, but what a glorious hope! It is wonderfully simple in its great teachings, but simply wonderful! In its mighty depths we shall continue to study it and to look into it with wonder and amazement through the endless ages of eternity.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isa. 1:18).

"He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:5).

This is grace, God's grace, grace greater than all our sin. This is the gospel of the grace of God.

REPENTANCE includes sorrow for sin, and a turning away from it. We shall not renounce sin unless we see its sinfulness; until we turn away from it in heart, there will be no real change in the life.—*Steps to Christ*, p. 23.



Pacific Press Publishing House in Oakland, California, and group of workers in early days of the establishment of this now-prosperous institution.

The Sabbath School Department

By L. L. MOFFITT, Secretary

Your Sabbath school secretaries are happy to bring you greetings from the General Conference Sabbath School Department, representing more than 18,000 Sabbath schools around the world with more than 1,180,000 Sabbath school members. As we render a brief report of Sabbath school progress during the quadrennial period ending December 31, 1953, it is with profound and humble gratitude to God for His loving-kindness and for His abundant blessing upon our feeble efforts. We also express our heartfelt appreciation for the devotion of our faithful army of Sabbath school leaders and members in every land who have made this report possible.

From North America, with its ten union conferences under the capable leadership of our ten union conference Sabbath school secretaries, coordinating the work of sixty efficient and enthusiastic local conference Sabbath school secretaries, we present 3,152 Sabbath schools, with a Sabbath school membership of 267,777.

In rapid succession we glimpse our ten world divisions under strong division, union, and local conference leadership.

Australasia, represented by C. C. Weis, the division Sabbath school secretary, greets us from 959 Sabbath schools, with 63,821 Sabbath school members.

For the Central European Division, W. Räcker, the division Sabbath school secretary, presents 1,456 Sabbath schools, with 49,125 members.

From the far-flung Far Eastern Division, F. A. Pratt, the division Sabbath school secretary, reports 1,587 Sabbath schools, with a Sabbath school membership of 89,777.

Our next-door neighbor, the Inter-American Division, comes up to this session with a Sabbath school membership of 126,888 in 1,988 Sabbath schools under the leadership of W. A. Wild, the division Sabbath school secretary.

Our newest and smallest and most ancient division (historically speaking), the Middle East Division, presents 54 Sabbath schools, with a membership of 2,565, under the leadership of the president and Sabbath school secretary, George J. Appel.

E. L. Minchin, the Sabbath school secretary for the Northern European Division, reports for 1,102 Sabbath schools, with a membership of 65,291, extending from the lands of the Midnight Sun to the steaming jungles of the Gold Coast, West Africa.

Reporting from the Continent of Opportunity, Santiago Schmidt, the division Sabbath school secretary, informs us that the South American Division now has 1,750 Sabbath schools caring for 89,028 Sabbath school members.

W. R. Vail, the Sabbath school secretary for the Southern African Division, reports 2,525 Sabbath schools, with a Sabbath school membership of 221,689.

W. L. Barclay, the Sabbath school sec-

retary for the Southern Asia Division, reports a Sabbath school membership of 23,942 in 536 Sabbath schools.

From the Southern European Division A. D. Gomes, the division Sabbath school secretary, reports 2,002 Sabbath schools, with 115,652 Sabbath school members.

In addition to these regular divisions there are a few detached fields and countries not in the orbit of our regularly organized work that account for the remainder of our reported world membership.

The General Conference, with all its varied interests and many departments, is of necessity the vital and sensitive nerve center for all the activities of our ever-increasing and rapidly developing work around the world. Although we are often



L. L. Moffitt

made to feel that our reactions are slower than they should be in view of the urgency of the hour, the Sabbath School Department has endeavored to keep pace with the advancing work. With the achieving of more than 33⅓ per cent gain in Sabbath school membership during the last quadrennium, we of necessity have had to intensify our office and field work. With the remodeling and the extension of the General Conference office building in 1952, the Sabbath School Department has been enabled to expand into more commodious quarters. We now occupy ten rooms on the second floor and have a storage and packing room in the basement. Our present staff consists of four department secretaries and one assistant, all kept constantly busy with routine office procedure and field work. In addition, we employ seven regular office secretaries to keep the Sabbath school mill

grinding out its varied grist for the world field.

Among the major services of the General Conference Sabbath School Department is the preparation of Sabbath school lessons for the Sabbath schools around the world. We process seven regular sets of lessons for the various age groups in our Sabbath schools—cradle roll, kindergarten, primary, junior, youth, adult, and a special set of lessons for certain overseas divisions—and three sets of camp meeting lessons for the weekday meetings of the children. Then there are certain workbooks and teaching aids that must be prepared, in addition to the editing of a forty-eight-page monthly journal, *The Sabbath School Worker*, with its five sets of lesson notes and illustrations for each week of the month. Along with all the lesson preparation, we have the constant gathering and editing of material for the *Missions Quarterly* and other mission promotion, a service to the cause of no little importance.

Another one of the exacting features of our work is the gathering and compiling of the quarterly and annual statistics of the varied Sabbath school activities from around the world.

The filling of orders for Sabbath school departmental supplies, *Missions Quarterly*, camp meeting lessons, Thirteenth Sabbath Offering envelopes, Sabbath school leaflets, teachers' training course materials, et cetera, and the dispatching of these materials by surface and air mail and by express is almost a full-time job for one of our office secretaries.

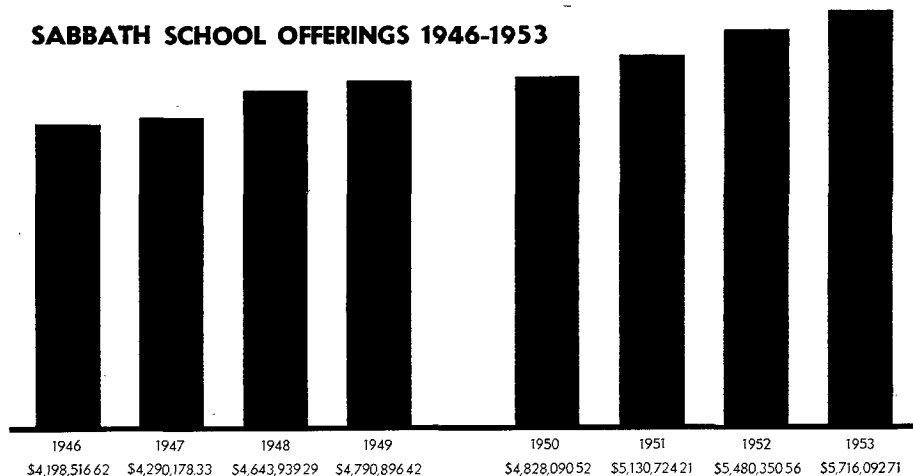
In the last two years almost the entire set of Sabbath school leaflets has been revised and printed in a new color edition. Within this quadrennial period three new Sabbath school songbooks have been prepared in collaboration with the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Also series of sand-table cutouts, flannelgraph illustrations, and beautiful religious pictures to coincide with our own children's Sabbath school lessons have been produced.

In addition to handling this ever-increasing volume of office work, our secretaries have been giving a larger amount of their time to field work than was customary in former years. Months on end, both at home and abroad, have been given to institutes, workshops, training courses, and general field promotion of Sabbath school work.

Our overseas visits during the quadrennium have included the following: the Far Eastern Division, the Southern European Division, the Central European Division, the Inter-American Division, the Southern African Division, the Australasian Division, the South American Division, and Hawaii.

This report would be incomplete without reference to the celebration of the Sabbath school centennial in 1952. All around the world this occasion was observed with enthusiasm, as it appropriately marked the passing of one hundred years of Sabbath school development under the prospering hand of God. Much publicity was given to this event in the public press. One special feature of news value was the honoring of persons with

SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS 1946-1953



the longest record of Sabbath school attendance. Pictures with accompanying stories showed aged men and women being awarded Bibles or other appropriate tokens for Sabbath school attendance of seventy, eighty, and ninety years, the top honors going to a sister in Bay City, Michigan with a ninety-three-year record of Sabbath school attendance.

Great impetus was given to the Sabbath school work as a result of the observance of this hundredth anniversary. A new challenge came to our Sabbath schools as they were thus forcefully reminded that a hundred years of Sabbath school activity had passed into history and that only a short time remains to finish the work of the Lord in all the earth and to prepare for His coming. The enthusiasm with which this event was observed is reflected in the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, which was taken on Anniversary Day, September 27, amounting to \$341,686.21—the largest Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in our history.

Statistical Analysis

The over-all picture of the Sabbath school work around the world is best gained by an analysis of the accompanying comparative tables and graphs. Such an analysis reveals that the number of Sabbath schools has grown from 16,176 in 1949 to 18,448 in 1953, a gain of 2,272 Sabbath schools. The Sabbath school membership at the close of 1949 was 889,386 and at the close of 1953 it was 1,187,883, a gain of 298,497, or a gain of a little more than 33½ per cent.

For many years approximately half the funds our denomination has expended in its foreign mission work have been raised in the Sabbath school. In recent times this has grown to be a multimillion dollar interest of the Sabbath school.

During the quadrennial period 1946 to 1949 our Sabbath schools raised for our worldwide work \$17,923,530.66. For the quadrennial period 1950-1953 our Sabbath schools raised \$21,155,258.00, a gain of \$3,231,727.34.

For the year 1953 the Sabbath school mission offerings amounted to \$5,716,092.71. This is an average of \$1,429,023.17 for each quarter of last year. Breaking it down still further we find this is an average of \$109,623.81 a week, and \$15,660.53 a day.

Our report reveals an increase in birthday-thank offerings of \$112,174.76 and in Investment of \$275,318.24. The Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings for the quadrennial period amounted to \$4,540,822.59, a gain of \$758,605.32, with a total overflow for the sixteen quarters of \$747,969.62. Since some do not understand how the overflow is determined, we give

maintaining \$258,691.32. From the \$60,000 we set aside \$2,000. Twenty per cent of the \$258,691.32 amounts to \$51,738.26, to which we add the previously set aside \$2,000, making the total overflow \$53,738.26.

The soul-winning activities of the Sabbath school are difficult to reduce to exact statistical tabulations. The emphasis upon Christ-centered teaching and soul-winning appeal in the children's divisions of our Sabbath schools is a strong factor in winning the children of the church to Christ. In mission lands the Sabbath school is a vital factor in preparing new converts for church membership. The number of baptisms of Sabbath school members in 1953 was 48,346. While other factors have had a bearing on the baptism of Sabbath school members, we are glad to report that at least this many were baptized.

Another important phase of neighborhood evangelism is the branch Sabbath school. For the year 1953 the world report shows that there were 3,954 branch Sabbath schools in operation. A very high percentage of branch Sabbath schools in some of the overseas divisions develop into regular Sabbath schools and

COMPARATIVE SABBATH SCHOOL STATISTICS

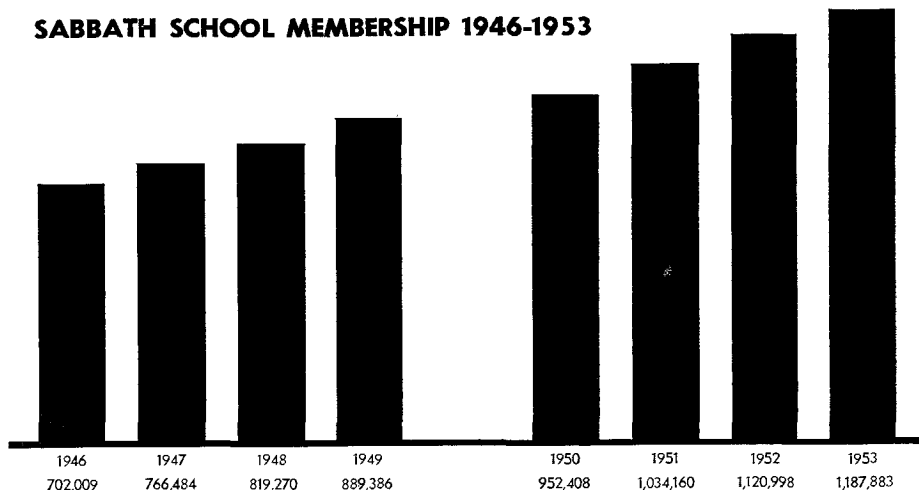
	Quadrennial		Gain	Per cent.
	1946-1949	1950-1953		
Number of S.S.	16,176	18,448	2,272	14.0%
S.S. membership	889,386	1,187,883	298,497	33.6%
Birthday-Thank Offering	\$ 388,717.83	\$ 500,892.59	\$ 112,174.76	28.9%
Investment Fund	1,441,727.26	1,717,045.50	275,318.24	19.0%
Twelve Sabbaths' Offering	12,310,868.30	14,373,440.80	2,062,572.50	16.8%
13th Sabbath Offering	3,782,217.27	4,540,822.59	758,605.32	20.1%
TOTAL S.S. OFFERINGS	\$17,923,530.66	\$21,155,258.00	\$3,231,727.34	18.0%
Other Facts of Interest				
Total tithe	\$98,678,951.66	\$130,113,965.96	\$31,435,014.30	31.9%
S.S. Offering % of tithe	18.2%	16.3%	(Loss 1.9%)	
13th Sabbath overflow	596,399.73	747,969.62	151,569.89	25.4%
S.S. offerings for 1953			\$ 5,716,092.71	
Total S.S. offerings for 68 years of mission giving, 1886-1953			\$92,421,669.22	
Maximum number of branch Sabbath schools in 1953			3,954	

the formula herewith. From the total offering received on the thirteenth Sabbath, \$60,000 is deducted, and from this \$60,000, \$2,000 is set aside as the nucleus of the overflow. Then 20 per cent of the balance is added to complete the overflow. For example, the overflow for the fourth quarter of 1953 amounted to \$318,691.32. Deducting \$60,000 we have re-

churches. Even in North America a recent survey reveals that 287 organized churches began as branch Sabbath schools.

Thus the Sabbath school is endeavoring to approach the divine standard. "The Sabbath school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in bringing souls to Christ."—*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 10.

SABBATH SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP 1946-1953



Statistical Report for Quadrennium

By H. W. KLASER, *Statistical Secretary*

Seventh-day Adventists have done and are doing a mighty work in the world, not only in turning the hearts of thousands of people to our Saviour and giving spiritual hope and faith in a world of confusion, but also in ministering to the physical needs of communities and peoples by the operating of sanitariums, hospitals, clinics, health food factories, and by the training of members for first aid in war and civilian emergencies.

Funds are increasing each year by millions, and men and women have volunteered to give their lives for this eternally vital program, but still the needs are not fully supplied. The great climax of our endeavors is the coming in glory of our Lord and Saviour, which is imminent, but which will not be until the gospel of the kingdom is preached in all the world for a witness unto all people.

Churches and Membership

At the close of 1953 the membership of Seventh-day Adventists around the world was 924,822, worshipping in 11,158 churches. This is an increase of 208,284 members and 1,167 churches since the beginning of the quadrennium. For every 1,000 members there was a net increase of 291 during the past four years; 134 in the North American Division and 371 in the divisions overseas.

	North America	Outside North America	World Field
Number of churches	3,016	8,142	11,158
Church members	275,733	649,089	924,822

A comparison of membership by division fields for the years 1945, 1949, and 1953 follows:

Division	1945	1949	1953
Australasian	22,930	26,983	36,415
Central European	38,039	43,570	43,713
China (estimated)	22,940	23,415	21,168
Far Eastern	36,052	47,515	67,674
Inter-American	54,503	71,784	96,179
Middle East			1,787
North American	212,514	243,193	275,733
Northern European	30,520	21,764	46,365
South American	41,284	52,982	69,985
Southern African	46,460	70,190	115,574
Southern Asia	8,133	10,373	14,309
Southern European	38,005	66,873	94,700
U.S.S.R. (estimated)	16,513	16,513	40,000
Unattached Territory	8,485	21,383	1,220
Totals	576,378	716,538	924,822

Because of war conditions during 1945, reports were difficult to obtain from some fields. During 1949 the transfer of territory accounts for the seeming losses and abnormal gains in the Northern and Southern European divisions.

Baptisms

During the past four years there were 307,581 persons received into church fellowship by baptism and on profession of faith; 68,419 in North America, and

239,162 in divisions outside North America. This is a remarkable record. Every minister and lay member prays for a larger ingathering of souls, but when the totals are tabulated our hearts are cheered with the number that have identified themselves with us.

In 1894 our first work in heathen lands was begun when a worker was sent to Mashonaland, now Rhodesia, and today, sixty years later, in the Southern African Division there is a membership of 115,574. On one Sabbath, September 6, 1952, 5,063 persons were baptized in this division.

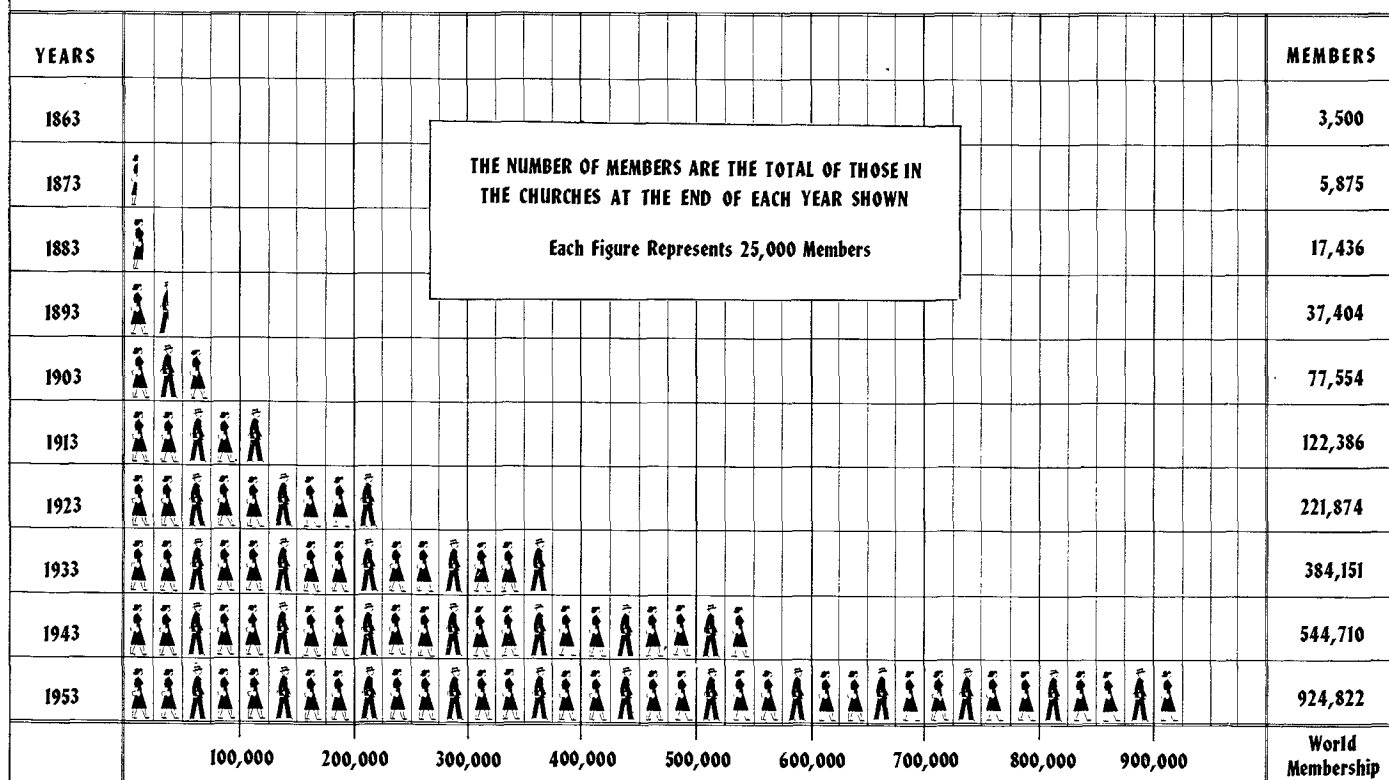
The Philippines has been very responsive to the wooing of the Holy Spirit. The three angels' messages were first preached there in 1905 by Elder J. L. McElhany, and at the close of 1953 there is a membership of 44,253. It is administered mostly by national leadership. This is a ratio of 1 Seventh-day Adventist to every 495 of the population. We rejoice in this wonderful fruitage, but in fairness to the sincere sacrificial work of God's faithful laborers in other parts of the world field, we should realize that it is the Spirit that gives the increase. Our responsibility is "in the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good" (Eccl. 11:6).

Workers

There were 39,159 persons devoting their full time to the propagating of the Seventh-day Adventist doctrine in 1952; 17,774 were doing evangelistic work and 21,385 were connected with the various

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORLD FIELD

Since the Organization of the Denomination in 1863 to the End of 1953



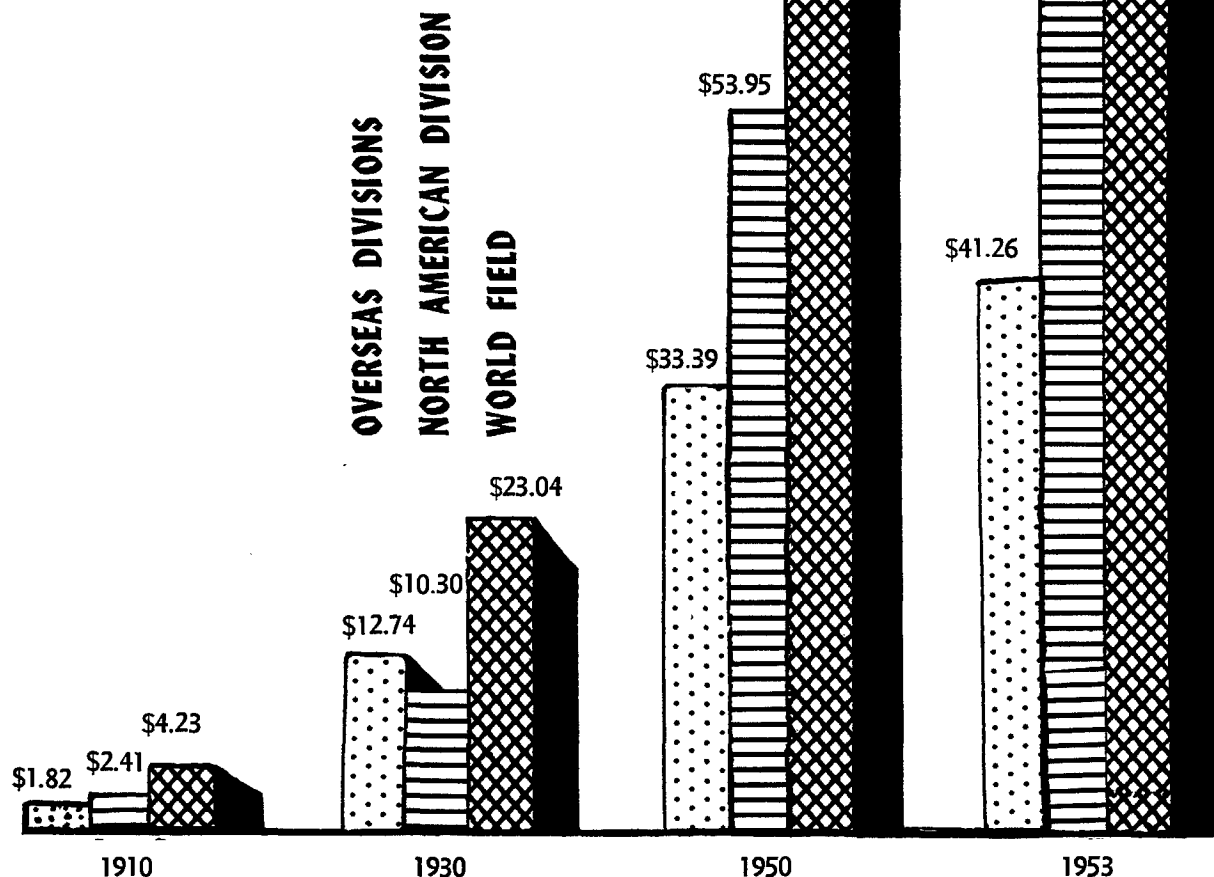
TOTAL CONFERENCE INCOME PER MINUTE

\$114.94

Total income represents tithe, foreign mission offerings, and home and local funds as reported.

Income for North American Division is tithe and home and local funds.

Income for rest of world is all funds reported raised in the field plus foreign mission offerings reported by North America.



TOTAL INCOME:

Overseas Divisions	\$ 958,319.16	\$ 6,700,401.28	\$17,549,759.80	\$21,695,418.63
North America	1,265,448.36	5,412,208.26	28,358,297.93	38,716,876.86
WORLD FIELD	2,223,767.52	12,112,609.54	45,908,057.73	60,412,295.49

institutions such as schools, hospitals, publishing houses, et cetera. Of this number 14,785 were in North America and 24,374 outside North America. Summaries of the various classes of workers are given in detail in the Annual Statistical Report.

Tithe and Offerings

The constant growth of the denomination naturally requires a larger outlay of funds. We must strengthen the stakes as we lengthen the cords. This is noticeable in the increase of funds received as noted

in the following tabulation, and also in Table 3.

Total Funds Received and Per Capita Giving

(Includes tithe, foreign mission offerings, and home and local funds)

Church Membership	North America	Overseas	Total
Membership, 1953	275,733	649,089	924,822
Membership, 1949	243,193	473,354	716,538
Increase 4 years—1949-53	32,540	175,744	208,284
Per cent increase—4 years	13.4%	37.1%	29.1%
Average membership increase for 100 baptisms—1949-53	51.3%	76.0%	70.7%
Membership, 1949	243,193	473,345	716,538
Membership, 1945	212,514	363,864	576,378
Increase 4 years—1945-49	30,679	109,481	140,160
Per cent increase—4 years	14.4%	30.1%	24.3%
Average membership increase for 100 baptisms—1945-49	52.7%	62.6%	60.1%
BAPTISMS			
Baptisms 4 years—1950-1953	63,467	231,326	294,793
Baptisms 4 years—1946-1949	58,208	174,958	233,166

	North America Total Funds	Per Capita	World Total Total Funds	Per Capita
1949	\$33,333,109.79	\$137.07	\$44,450,803.21	\$62.03
1950	35,838,651.91	150.87	45,908,057.73	73.60
1951	41,026,275.00	167.22	52,240,980.29	74.34
1952	44,362,947.38	174.70	56,097,369.43	77.17
1953	47,782,877.65	181.57	60,412,195.84	73.63

During 1953 the members around the world paid into the treasuries of the denomination \$60,412,195.84. Of this amount more than 36½ million was tithe, nearly 12 million for foreign missions, and nearly 12 million for home and local work. It is interesting to note that the North American Division, with 29.8 per cent of the members, paid in 79.1 per cent of the total funds. There are several factors that bring this about. Some are, first, many Seventh-day Adventists live in undeveloped countries and with a different standard of living; they do not have to contend with the influences of the gold standard or controlled currencies. Second, although all funds are converted to U.S. dollars for comparative purposes, yet if funds of each country could be shown in their own unit of currency, it would be more favorable to their report. Seventh-day Adventists are found in every stratum of life, from the highlands of New Guinea to the sidewalks of New York. We may not all have the same economic standards, but spiritual standards are the same the world around, and we know that figures and other tangible evidences are not the full indication of how near is the completion of the preaching of the gospel to every nation.

The total income through our churches around the world during 1953 amounted to \$114.94 per minute, day and night, seven days per week throughout the year. By the placing of the foreign mission offerings from the North American Division in the overseas section, the above figure gives \$73.66 per minute for use in the North American Division and \$41.28 per minute for use in the overseas divisions, or \$106,073.63 per day for the North American Division and \$59,439.50 per day for the divisions overseas.

Church Buildings

At the close of 1953 there were 11,158 church organizations, with 6,705 buildings and a seating capacity of 1,049,678, having a value of \$47,375,201.89. In North America there were 3,016 church organizations, with 2,528 buildings and a seating capacity of 477,965.

Denominational Investment

As of December 31, 1952, the financial summaries revealed a total denominational investment of \$228,662,246.90 in churches, schools, publishing houses, hospitals, health food centers, and other organizations. Of this amount \$163,550,940.57 was in the North American Division and \$65,111,306.33 in the divisions outside North America. (See Table 4.)

Table 2.—SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST WORKERS IN NORTH AMERICA—1953

	Total Workers Reported by Conferences	Institutional Workers Holding Credentials	Evange- listic Workers
Ordained ministers	2,084	204	1,880
Licensed ministers	910	159	751
Credentialed missionaries	687	473	214
Licensed missionaries	2,175	1,536	639
Bible instructors	158	158
Other conference workers	91	91
Colporteurs	6,105	2,372	3,733
	709	709
Total	6,814	2,372	4,442

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST WORKERS IN WORLD FIELD—1953

	In North America	Outside North America	World Field
Reported by fields	6,105	11,502	17,607
Less duplications	2,372	750	3,122
Colporteurs	3,733	10,752	14,485
	709	2,646	3,355
Total evangelistic workers	4,442	13,498	17,840
1952 Institutional Workers			
Publishing houses	801	903	1,704
Medical institutions	5,663	3,122	8,785
Advanced schools	2,074	1,277	3,351
Elementary schools	1,755	4,311	6,066
Food factories	243	1,236	1,479
Total institutional workers	10,536	10,849	21,385

Table 3.—COMPARISON OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS, 1949 AND 1953

	North America	Overseas	World Field
Funds received in 1953:			
Tithe	\$28,154,905.25	\$ 8,493,971.55	\$36,648,876.80
Mission offerings	9,066,000.79	2,881,578.00	11,947,578.79
Home and local offerings	10,561,971.61	1,253,768.64	11,815,740.25
Totals, 1953	\$47,782,877.65	\$12,629,318.19	\$60,412,195.84
Totals, 1949	33,627,877.22	11,117,693.42	44,745,570.64
Increase over 1949	14,155,000.43	1,511,624.77	15,666,625.20
Per cent of increase	42.1%	13.6%	35.0%

Table 4.—DENOMINATIONAL INVESTMENT, 1952

Organizations	North America	Overseas	World Field
From 1952 Financial Statement:			
Conferences	\$ 29,588,626.06	\$20,088,539.89	\$ 49,677,165.95
Associations	15,908,089.23	14,001,122.22	29,909,211.45
Book and Bible Houses	1,917,149.90	1,186,069.82	3,103,219.72
Colleges and secondary schools	38,031,441.93	6,285,900.67	44,337,342.60
Publishing houses	9,358,566.63	3,810,733.25	13,169,299.88
Medical institutions	28,625,250.55	6,187,396.79	34,812,647.34
Food factories	1,171,692.07	970,126.09	2,141,818.16
Radio evangelism	869,738.30	119,368.42	989,106.72
Totals	\$125,490,554.67	\$52,649,259.15	\$178,139,813.82
From 1952 Statistical Report:			
Church buildings	\$ 30,694,532.02	\$11,365,567.72	\$ 42,060,099.74
Church school buildings	7,365,853.88	1,096,479.46	8,462,333.34
Totals	\$ 38,060,385.90	\$12,462,047.18	\$ 50,522,433.08
Grand Totals, 1952	\$163,550,940.57	\$65,111,306.33	\$228,662,246.90
Per cent	71.53%	28.47%	100.00%

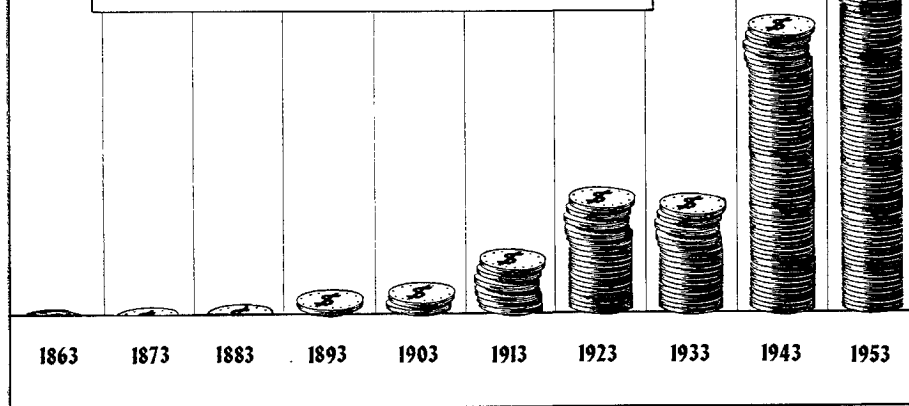
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CONTRIBUTIONS EACH TEN YEARS FROM DATE OF ORGANIZATION

Including Tithe, Sabbath School Offerings, Ingathering, and Other Gifts for Foreign and Home Missions, and for Local Church Work.

EACH COLUMN SHOWS THE TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED FOR ONE YEAR ONLY

Each Coin Represents \$500,000

1863	\$ 8,000.00
1873	30,809.99
1883	110,087.50
1893	473,169.35
1903	842,390.21
1913	2,866,727.40
1923	9,196,781.95
1933	8,642,652.43
1943	25,679,249.11
1953	60,412,195.84



Financial Condition

For every \$100 of denominational assets in 1948 there was \$131.31 in 1952. Each \$100 of liabilities in 1948 grew to \$115.21 in 1952. (See Table 5.) A breakdown of assets and liabilities by groups will be found in Table 6, comparing the same with the previous quadrennium.

The current financial strength of any organization is determined largely by the availability of its liquid assets and its relationship to liabilities. A comparison of these figures will be found in Table 7.

Missionary Activities

As of September 1, 1953, Seventh-day Adventists had 2,000 missionaries in various parts of the world, 1,713 in the field, 132 on furlough, and 155 under appointment. For a detailed list of where these workers are from and the field in which they are serving see the exhibit listed in the back of the 1953 Annual Statistical Report.

During the past four years 860 new workers have been sent overseas, not including children of missionaries or laborers returning to their fields from furlough. Of the 230 countries listed, embracing the world, with an estimated population of 2,400 million, Seventh-day Adventists have entered and are carrying on work in 197

countries, with a population of 2,364,431,157, or 98.5 per cent of the population of the world. This leaves yet to be entered 33 countries, with a population of 35,568,843. This worldwide work is being carried on in 721 languages and dialects, of which there are publications in 198.

Schools and Colleges

In the parochial school system of Seventh-day Adventists, at the close of 1953 there was an enrollment in the elementary grades of 197,515 pupils, being taught by 6,308 teachers in 4,568 schools. These are divided as follows:

	Schools	Teachers	Enrollment
North America	1,011	1,800	33,959
Overseas	3,557	4,508	163,556
World field	4,568	6,308	197,515

Table 5.—ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET WORTH FOR 1944, 1948, 1952
(Not including church or elementary school properties)

	1944	1948	1952	Increase 1952 over 1948	Per Cent Increase
North America					
Assets	\$53,964,287.12	\$ 86,921,498.42	\$125,490,554.67	\$38,569,056.25	44.4%
Liabilities	8,759,182.34	15,708,164.32	22,869,743.64	7,161,579.32	45.6%
Net Worth	\$45,205,104.78	\$ 71,213,334.10	\$102,620,811.03	\$31,407,476.93	44.1%
Overseas Divisions					
Assets	\$30,280,155.02	\$ 48,739,376.61	\$ 52,649,259.15	\$ 3,909,882.54	8.0%
Liabilities	9,872,281.62	16,395,406.18	14,213,825.00	2,181,583.18	13.3%
Net Worth	\$20,407,873.40	\$ 32,343,970.43	\$ 38,435,436.15	\$ 6,091,465.72	18.8%
NET WORTH					
World Field	\$65,612,978.18	\$103,557,304.53	\$141,056,247.18	\$37,498,942.65	36.2%

The above figures represent an increase during the past four years of 714 schools, 404 teachers, and 34,751 pupils. The enrollment per 1,000 church members is 252 for the overseas divisions and 123 for North America. This is 35 less enrollment per 1,000 church members overseas and 12 more enrollment per 1,000 members in North America.

Students above the elementary grades throughout the world field numbered 37,151 at the close of 1952. This is an increase of 4,874 over the 1949 report. The total assets of these 274 secondary schools and colleges total \$44,337,342.60, an increase of \$12,656,099.16, or 39.9 per cent over 1948.

	North America	Overseas	World Field
1952	\$38,051,441.93	\$6,285,900.67	\$44,337,342.60
1948	26,833,872.86	4,847,370.58	31,681,243.44
Increase	\$11,217,569.07	\$1,438,530.09	\$12,656,099.16
Per cent of Increase	41.8%	29.7%	39.9%

Publishing Houses

Reports for 1953 have not reached me for all the publishing houses. There were 39 reported for 1952, and the retail value of books and periodicals for that year was \$16,371,888.24, book sales of \$10,880,613.83, and 348 periodicals totaling \$5,491,274.11. It is estimated that retail sales values will be 3 per cent higher for 1953. The assets were \$13,169,299.88 and the liabilities \$2,517,127.03. Literature is being printed in 198 languages and dialects. 70.4 per cent of the sales were in the North American Division.

Health Institutions

This section must also be for the year 1952. This report shows an increase of 20 institutions over the three-year period, bringing the total to 181, with a bed capacity of 12,011. These institutions took care of 188,978 house patients and gave treatments to 2,093,423 out patients. This work was carried on by 380 physicians, 2,347 nurses, 1,622 student nurses, and 6,063 other employees. Among the large number of patients treated, charity was extended in the amount of \$806,874.96. The total assets were \$34,812,649.34 and liabilities of \$5,520,643.63.

Sabbath School

At the close of 1953, 18,448 Sabbath schools around the world reported 1,187,883 members. This represents a growth of 2,272 schools and 259,728 members in the four years between 1949 and 1953. In areas outside North America the Sabbath school enrollment of 920,106 was 271,017

Table 6.—ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET WORTH OF ORGANIZATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

Assets:	1944	1948	1952	Increase 1952 Over 1948
Cash and bank	\$12,332,611.67	\$10,881,995.85	\$ 14,215,992.26	\$ 3,333,996.41
Accounts receivable	3,121,802.69	7,115,751.24	7,250,601.07	134,849.83
Bonds and securities	13,922,497.16	15,092,009.51	20,350,553.76	5,258,544.25
Notes and loans rec.	1,227,371.46	2,319,218.71	5,834,852.44	3,515,633.73
Merchandise and prepaid expense	4,170,393.43	8,054,330.13	10,663,955.30	2,609,625.17
Real estate (land and improvements)	3,299,166.88	5,263,601.22	7,238,364.01	1,972,762.79
Buildings	11,400,061.50	29,489,321.23	48,228,929.72	18,739,608.49
Equipment	4,490,362.33	8,703,270.53	11,707,306.11	3,004,035.58
Total Assets	\$53,964,287.12	\$86,921,498.42	\$125,490,554.67	\$38,569,056.25
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 2,093,855.78	\$ 4,094,853.81	\$ 4,144,538.16	\$ 49,684.35
Notes payable	1,916,335.24	4,214,433.56	8,882,313.60	4,667,880.04
Trust funds	2,036,901.96	4,871,587.32	6,954,840.71	2,083,253.39
Deferred income	583,538.09	1,737,386.83	1,017,361.88	279,975.05
Annuity contracts	2,128,551.27	1,789,902.80	1,870,689.29	80,786.49
Total liabilities	\$ 8,759,182.34	\$15,708,164.32	\$ 22,869,743.64	\$ 7,161,579.32
NET WORTH	\$45,205,104.78	\$71,213,334.10	\$102,620,811.03	\$31,407,476.93

ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET WORTH OF ORGANIZATIONS IN OVERSEAS DIVISIONS

Assets:	1944	1948	1952	Increase 1952 Over 1948
Cash and bank	\$ 8,876,084.72	\$11,300,163.22	\$ 9,145,429.18	\$(2,154,734.04)
Accounts receivable	3,802,480.14	11,349,213.90	8,415,116.78	(2,934,097.12)
Bonds and securities	2,194,892.84	1,173,262.54	1,598,515.97	425,253.43
Notes and loans rec.	312,315.67	263,208.67	2,068,547.11	1,805,338.44
Merchandise and prepaid expense	2,365,743.92	5,110,961.22	6,174,514.12	1,063,552.90
Real estate (land and improvements)	2,529,155.41	3,069,433.27	3,581,872.08	512,438.81
Buildings	8,067,682.79	12,053,134.48	15,952,079.38	3,898,944.90
Equipment	2,131,795.53	4,419,999.31	5,713,184.53	1,293,185.22
Total Assets	\$30,280,155.02	\$48,739,376.61	\$52,649,259.15	\$3,909,882.54
Liabilities:				
Accounts receivable	\$ 4,996,816.40	\$ 9,972,299.77	\$ 7,037,535.51	\$(2,934,764.26)
Notes payable	1,101,767.14	1,469,960.25	3,637,206.69	2,167,246.44
Trust funds	3,404,935.22	4,421,133.32	2,852,374.39	(1,568,758.93)
Deferred income	82,158.89	191,096.16	238,560.14	47,463.98
Annuity contracts	286,603.97	340,916.68	448,146.27	107,229.59
Total Liabilities	\$ 9,872,281.62	\$16,395,406.18	\$14,213,823.00	\$(2,181,583.18)
NET WORTH	\$20,407,873.40	\$32,343,970.43	\$38,435,436.15	\$6,091,465.72

Table 7.—COMPARISONS BETWEEN CASH AND SECURITY TOTALS AND LIABILITY BALANCES

	1944	1948	1952	Increase or (Decrease) 1952	Percent Increase or Decrease
North America					
Cash	\$12,332,611.67	\$10,881,995.85	\$14,215,992.26	\$3,333,996.41	30.63%
Securities	13,922,497.16	15,092,009.51	20,350,553.76	5,258,544.25	34.84%
Total	\$26,255,108.83	\$25,974,005.36	\$34,566,546.02	\$8,592,540.66	33.08%
Liabilities	\$ 8,759,182.34	\$15,708,164.32	\$22,869,743.64	\$7,161,579.32	45.59%
Cash and securities for each \$1.00 liabilities	\$3.00	\$1.65	\$1.51		
Overseas Divisions					
Cash	\$ 8,876,084.72	\$11,300,163.22	\$ 9,145,429.18	\$(2,154,734.04)	(19.1)
Securities	2,194,892.84	1,173,262.54	1,598,515.97	425,253.43	36.2
Total	\$11,070,977.56	\$12,473,425.76	\$10,743,945.15	\$(1,729,480.61)	(13.9)
Liabilities	\$ 9,872,281.62	\$16,395,406.18	\$14,213,823.00	\$(2,181,583.18)	(13.3)
Cash and securities for each 1.00 liabilities	\$1.12	\$.76	\$.76		

Denominational Investment
1908-1952

Year	Amount	Per Capita
1908	\$ 8,436,309.41	\$ 86.46
1910	10,086,245.27	96.50
1915	14,254,615.45	104.14
1920	30,699,461.49	165.54
1925	45,648,299.24	181.87
1930	54,115,482.55	172.20
1935	57,745,120.18	136.52
1940	64,704,751.82	128.19
1941	66,776,612.19	128.26
1942	74,785,933.08	139.75
1943	86,141,653.96	158.14
1944	100,443,162.13	180.08
1945	118,565,591.70	205.71
1946	138,440,570.51	231.24
1947	151,246,974.05	240.61
1948	166,078,322.64	246.90
1949	184,565,008.57	257.57
1950	188,083,824.31	248.55
1951	207,595,694.25	258.29
1952	228,662,246.90	266.98

High Lights of the Day

(Continued from page 53)

of instruction to see how particular participants had to be, both those in the picture and the engineers handling the equipment.

In the dressing room back of the organ Jimmie Prince, make-up artist for KGO TV in San Francisco, was putting the final touches of panchromatic color paste on the face of T. E. Lucas, who was to take part in the telecast. He explained that faces were so different in their reflections of light that all those who were to be photographed for television had to have individual treatment for the sake of uniformity in the picture.

A few minutes before three o'clock all the personnel having to do with the first program were alerted to wait for the signal. Sound and camera men stood at their places. Pastor and Mrs. Fagal took their

larger than the church membership, and represents 142 Sabbath school members for every 100 church members. In the United States and Canada the 267,777 Sabbath school members were 7,956 less than the church membership, or 97 Sabbath school members for every 100 church members.

Offerings for missions paid through the Sabbath school in 1953 of \$5,716,092.71 were \$925,196.29, or 19.3 per cent more than the Sabbath school offerings in 1949. In the entire world field during 1953, for every dollar raised for foreign missions 47.8c was given through the Sabbath school. In the North American field 50.7c of each foreign mission fund dollar came through the Sabbath school.

Young People's Missionary Volunteers

There are 310,715 members reported in the 11,395 young people's societies, representing an increase of 1,386 societies and 59,036 members over the year 1949. The \$98,327.68 contributed for local society work is \$11,081.37 more than was contributed in 1949, but this does not reflect the tithe, Ingathering, Sabbath school, and other offerings and activities in which our young people so loyally and willingly cooperate.

God's Work Moves Forward

Every line of work shows advance. There are areas of test and trial, and we regret there are some who become discouraged and drop by the way, but the power of God is manifesting itself, and who knows, the work may be nearer finished than we think, certainly much nearer than can be shown in any report.

It is with a spirit of consecration that this report is submitted, a spirit of humbleness and confidence, for "I know whom I have believed" (2 Tim. 1:12). A glorious victory is before us.

seats behind the desk. The quartet made ready for their opening theme song while script writer Elaine Giddings hovered near, the complete script in hand for whatever prompting might be necessary. E. R. Walde, secretary of the Radio and Television Department, called for silence, and the program was on.

Once launched, the program proceeded as in the usual weekly telecast. The first one consisted of interviews with representatives from various countries who are attending the conference. Interpreters were necessary for some of them. One of the families interviewed was that of Juan Ayala, of Bolivia. Their nineteen-day-old baby was an unusual attraction. Kato Rogoso, faithful fuzzy-headed worker from the Solomons who attended the General Conference in 1936, was another unique personality in the series of interviews.

(Continued on page 71)

Proceedings of the General Conference

Forty-seventh Session, May 24-June 5, 1954

Third Meeting

May 25, 1954, 3:00 P.M.

CHAIRMAN: W. H. Branson.

OPENING HYMN: "My Hope Is Built."

PRAYER: H. W. Lowe.

W. H. BRANSON: This is a business session, and we are prepared to entertain reports from committees.

E. D. DICK: Your Committee on Nominations has a partial report to render. Before calling on C. L. Bauer, our secretary, I should like to say just a few words. You have given us a good Nominating Committee of eighty-four members. These were joined by the division presidents, as we agreed upon in session last night. As we gave consideration to the leadership of the denomination we recognized that we are choosing one upon whom very, very heavy responsibilities must rest. Our committee gave careful, earnest study to the matter before them, and we bring to you a unanimous report of our Nominating Committee, which will be presented by the secretary, Elder Bauer.

C. L. BAUER: Elder Branson, Elder Dick, fellow delegates of the forty-seventh General Conference World Session of Seventh-day Adventists, your Nominating Committee has the following partial report to bring to you:

For the president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists: R. R. Figuhr. I move the adoption of the report.

W. H. BRANSON: You have heard the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. Is there a second to the motion to adopt?

D. A. OCHS: I second it.

W. H. BRANSON: You have heard this partial report of the Nominating Committee. Are you ready for the question? We will ask the delegates only to vote first. All in favor of the adoption of this report, please stand. [All delegates stood.]

Now if you will just remain standing for a moment, I am going to give our believers who are present at this session and would like to express themselves, an opportunity to do so. Those who are in the galleries and who are not delegates and who would like to express themselves favorably on this question, would you please stand. [The remainder of the congregation stood.] Thank you very much. We declare the motion carried. R. R. Figuhr has just become the president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. If Elder Figuhr is in the audience, we would like to have him come to the platform, please.

[Elder Figuhr went to platform.]

W. H. BRANSON: Elder Figuhr, I wish on behalf of this delegation and all the members of our churches who are here today to extend to you a very hearty, warm welcome to the presidency of the General Conference. We believe with all our hearts that the Lord has led the Nominating Committee and that they have made a wise choice. You are coming into

the leadership of the church, Brother Figuhr, at a very perilous time in the world's history. The burdens of leadership are very heavy, but we want to assure you that we not only welcome you to this position but pledge to you our support and our prayers, and every effort that we can possibly put forth to make your work a success. I am sure that the greatest achievements of this church are just before us. May God grant you the wisdom and the understanding to lead us to far greater victories in the work of God than have ever yet been experienced. We all pledge you our sincere and hearty cooperation in every good undertaking for the upbuilding of the church.

[R. R. Figuhr's response appeared in the May 26 bulletin.]

W. H. BRANSON: L. E. Biggs, from the Oregon Conference, has asked to speak.

L. E. BIGGS: We have just selected a man for the presidency of the General Conference who is a product of the Oregon Conference. I could not be restrained. I wish to make everyone acquainted with the fact. Brother Figuhr was born in Wisconsin, but his parents brought him out to Oregon when he was a lad. Brother Figuhr is a graduate of our Walla Walla College. He is a GI of World War I. He entered the ministry in the Oregon Conference under the leadership of Hampton W. Cottrell. He has been around the world and back again, and we are glad to welcome him as a product of the Oregon Conference.

W. H. BRANSON: Elder Figuhr will bring to the denomination a wealth of experience. He has labored in several different parts of the world, and has carried heavy positions of responsibility through the years. During the last four years he has been one of the vice-presidents serving at our general headquarters in Washington. I am sure that the church will continue to make great progress and advancement under his leadership.

W. P. BRADLEY: We have two additional cables bringing greetings to the General Conference session. One comes from Southern Asia, from Brethren Mattison and Kemmerer. They say, "Southern Asia workers send warmest greetings. Pray God richly bless General Conference session in laying strongest plans ever to finish work in all the world and hasten coming our Lord." Another message comes from the Egypt Mission. It says: "Pray God's blessing guide session. Greetings."

W. H. BRANSON: Shall we include these in the list of those to which we have asked the secretary to respond?

[This was duly voted.]

W. P. BRADLEY: Now we have a report from A. W. Cormack, secretary of the Committee on the Seating of Delegates.

[The following delegates were seated.]

Australasian Inter-Union Conference

Central Pacific Union.—E. J. Landa.

Coral Sea Union.—A. J. Campbell.

South China.—Milton Lee.

South American Division

Austral Union.—Merardo Leon.

Inca Union.—Mrs. Mario Rasi, Mrs. J. A. Bonjour, Mrs. Moises Tenorio, H. C. Smith, Mrs. H. C. Smith, Mrs. R. A. Hayden.

South Brazil Union.—George Sabeff, Americo Coelho, Mrs. R. Rabello, Mrs. Jose Baracat, Olinto Marques, Arnaldo Annies, Mrs. Walter Streithorst, Mrs. Manoel Banque, Mrs. Geraldo Leitzke, Mrs. Dermival Lima, Mrs. G. G. Oliveira.

Southern African Division

Congo Union.—Mrs. K. F. Ambs, Mrs. E. I. Edstrom, Mrs. J. P. Sundquist, Mrs. H. W. Beavon, Mrs. B. P. Wendell.

East African Union.—Mrs. E. D. Hanson, Mrs. R. A. Marx, Mrs. R. L. Wangerin, Mrs. V. E. Robinson, Mrs. W. H. Taylor, Mrs. W. O. England.

South African Union.—B. Hassenpflug, Mrs. B. Hassenpflug, H. Turner, Mrs. H. Turner, Mrs. R. S. Watts, Mrs. E. A. Moon, Mrs. C. P. Bringle, Mrs. J. M. Hnatyshyn, Mrs. W. R. Vail, Mrs. J. van de Merwe, Mrs. J. Staples.

Southeast African Union.—O. B. Beardsley, Mrs. O. B. Beardsley, Mrs. S. A. Kotz, Mrs. A. K. Phillips.

Zambesi Union.—Mrs. G. O. Adams, Mrs. P. B. Fairchild.

Southern European Division

Angola.—E. V. Hermanson.

Inter-American Division

Antillian Union.—Laudolina Hernandez, Maria Moreno, Melvin Sickler.

British West Indies Union.—Ernest Baisden, Joyce McCalla.

Caribbean Union Mission.—Charles Beeler, Mercedes Castro, Florence Hansen, Marguerite Peugh, Fernon Retzer.

W. P. BRADLEY: The committee also recommends that the following persons be seated as delegates at large:

W. E. Baxter, J. H. Bischoff, C. A. Boykin, W. J. Brown, G. O. Bruce, M. J. Bureaud, Vernon Flory, L. S. Follette, Fenton Froom, L. E. Hubbs, R. W. Nelson, Frank Peterson, Mrs. M. P. Robison, R. V. Shearer, J. G. Thomas, V. E. Toppenberg, R. M. Turner, F. E. Wall, F. D. Wells, C. L. Witzel.

[The report was duly voted and the delegates seated.]

W. P. BRADLEY: We have a recommendation that L. E. Biggs be added to the Finance Committee, C. Winandy of Southern Europe to the Plans Committee, and Miss Ernestine Gill to the Plans Committee. I move that these names be added to the respective committees.

[This was duly voted.]

W. H. BRANSON: The Sabbath School Department has its report for us at this time. We shall call on L. L. Moffitt, secretary of the Sabbath School Department, to lead us into this report.

[The report of the Sabbath School Department appears on page 57.]

W. H. BRANSON: We surely have been impressed by this wonderful report from our Sabbath School Department. I think there is nothing that we have in the way of departments or organizations within the church that means more to the denomination than the Sabbath school! Also,

there is nothing that means more to the world field than the Sabbath school offerings. Millions of dollars are now being raised by our members in our Sabbath schools, and these dollars are going out to help support our workers in many lands. I suppose that many thousands of our believers in every country not only attribute their connection with the work to the branch Sabbath schools that are being held, but also give credit to the Sabbath school for establishing them in the truth, holding their interest, and keeping them in the church.

Now, according to the program we have before us, H. W. Klaser, the statistical secretary, will present his report.

[The report of the statistical secretary appears on page 59.]

W. H. BRANSON: I am sure we all feel like thanking Brother Klaser for this very interesting and illuminating report. The thing that caught my eye more than anything else was the fact that 98 per cent of the world's population may now be reached by the fields represented and the methods of evangelism we are carrying forward. I was very much interested also in learning that at the present time we are working in 721 languages and publishing our literature in 198. I am sure you will want to take these sheets home, for you will have many occasions to refer to them during the year that is coming.

W. P. BRADLEY: The election of Elder Figuhr as president will make heavy demands upon his time, and I was thinking of the Plans Committee, of which he has been appointed chairman. I would like to move that we relieve Elder Figuhr of that responsibility and appoint instead L. K. Dickson.

[This was duly voted.]

[A resolution was introduced proposing a change in the constitutional provisions for session delegations. After some discussion, action was deferred to a later meeting.]

BENEDICTION: J. J. Nethery.

W. H. BRANSON, *Chairman*.

W. P. BRADLEY, *Secretary*.

Fourth Meeting

May 26, 1954, 10 A.M.

CHAIRMAN: A. V. Olson.

HYMN No. 30: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less Than Jesus' Blood and Righteousness."

PRAYER: By Merle L. Mills, president Southern New England Conference.

A. V. OLSON: We understand the Nominating Committee has a further partial report.

E. D. DICK: It would expedite the work of our Nominating Committee if we might be privileged to submit a further partial report. Elder Bauer, secretary of the committee, will present it.

C. L. BAUER: Your Nominating Committee submits the following partial report: For secretary of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, W. R. Beach; for treasurer of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, C. L. Torrey. Brother chairman, I move the adoption of this report.

[The report was unanimously adopted.]

A. V. OLSON: Brother Roenfelt will present an item.

E. E. ROENFELT: In the making up of the Committee on Plans, unfortunately one name was overlooked. I move that F. A. Pratt, who served for some time in the Far East in the home missionary department and as Sabbath school secretary, be added to the Plans Committee.

[This was voted.]

A. V. OLSON: We shall now give a few moments to F. D. Nichol, the editor of the REVIEW.

F. D. NICHOL: It is something of a tradition that once in four years we hold a General Conference session. It is also a tradition that each session be reported in full for the inspiration and instruction of our people everywhere. We don't want simply us who are here to receive all the blessing and the grace and the further knowledge of the onward progress of the work. Because the REVIEW publishes a daily bulletin, our people over the whole field are able to know what we know—what we have heard and partly what we have seen—of this great General Conference session.

This daily bulletin is included with a subscription to THE REVIEW AND HERALD. That means every subscriber receives it. Now, I think I would fail to take proper advantage of the moment if I did not remind you that this is a service that is rendered to our people at no additional charge. One of the silent contributions we are happy to make to the people of the Advent Movement. THE REVIEW AND HERALD existed before there was anything else in the denomination. We feel we are the servants of the cause and seek today to carry on the traditions that have dictated the editorial policy for more than a century.

I hold in my hand the first copy of the REVIEW containing the official report of the 1954 session. It carries complete news through the first night. We are able to give this very rapid service as the result of a telephone connection with the REVIEW and Washington. There is already in the mail now winging its way back from Washington the second issue, which will have virtually all the news of yesterday.

It is also a tradition that we present the first copy of the first number to the president of the General Conference. The incoming president is not able to be here. But I think it seems a little appropriate and a privilege to make the presentation to our esteemed retiring president. Elder Branson, it is an honor to give you this first copy. We have placed your picture upon it. We think this is the most fitting front cover for the first number of the REVIEW.

W. H. BRANSON: Thank you, Elder Nichol. I appreciate this gift and want to assure all of you that I am a very ardent reader of the REVIEW. I read it all the time, and I am sure you do. I hope that in some way we can persuade all our people everywhere to become subscribers to it.

A. V. OLSON: We shall ask R. J. Christian, manager of the Periodical Department of the Review and Herald, to say a word.

R. J. CHRISTIAN: Four years ago at the time of the General Conference we had

many urgent requests from nondelegates for the opportunity of securing the daily issues of the bulletin as they came out. We did not make provision then for these extra bulletins. This year we have made limited provision for nondelegates to secure the official minutes of the conference at the bookstand, immediately following the session, where the bulletins are distributed. As our good editor has mentioned to you, we are happy to provide this service without cost to the treasury of the church and without any cost to the REVIEW subscribers.

If you are wondering whether the folks back home are receiving promptly their copies of the General Conference REVIEWS even as we are, let me assure you that when the Review office closed last evening every copy of the first issue had been mailed from the Review and Herald to those who have specially ordered the General Conference bulletins and to all the regular subscribers of the REVIEW. We consider that the Review and Herald is a service institution of the church, that its obligation ends only when it has rendered the maximum service at minimum cost to the church.

A. V. OLSON: Several legal associations have been announced for this morning, namely the General Conference Corporation, the General Conference Association, and the North American Division Association.

Session adjourned.

[Reports of legal meetings appear in a later issue.]

A. V. OLSON, *Chairman*.

E. E. ROENFELT, *Secretary*.

Mayor of San Francisco Addresses Conference

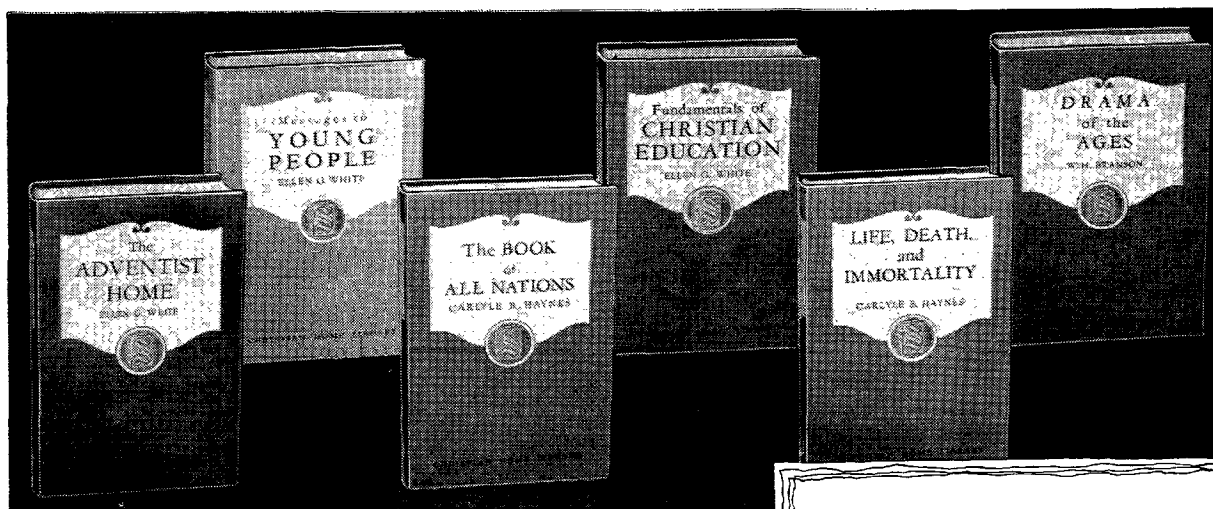
[On Tuesday morning, May 25, the Honorable Elmer E. Robinson, mayor of San Francisco, addressed the session. Following is a condensation of that address.]

It is a pleasure and a privilege for me, as mayor of San Francisco, to extend this city's cordial welcome to this great Forty-seventh General Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists.

It seems a remarkable thing to me that you have delegates here from nearly 100 countries, representing a world membership of about 925,000 persons, one third of which, I am told, live in our United States. I have learned with much interest of the large gain in membership since your 1950 conference, and of your outstanding fund-raising campaigns, including your successful Ingathering and Uplift Campaign that began just recently, around March 1, I believe it was.

It can be truly said that your people, working and striving for the great spiritual program of Christ, constitute a virtual "United Nations in Action," co-operating as you do, the people of one nation with another, people of one race with those of others. Your international cooperation certainly provides an example for all to follow, for certainly there is no greater need today than for a return to the basic principles of Christian

(Continued on page 71)



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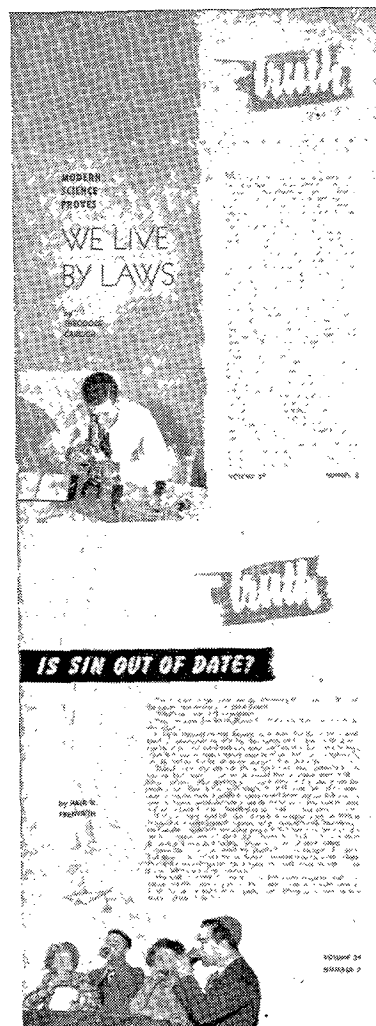
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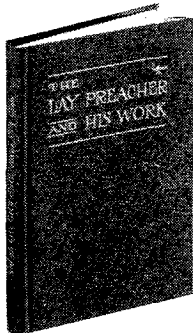
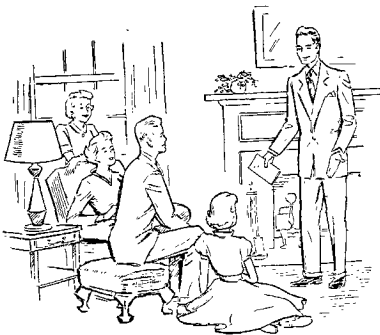
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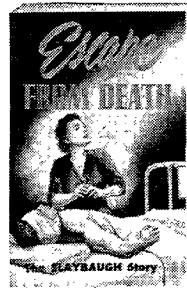
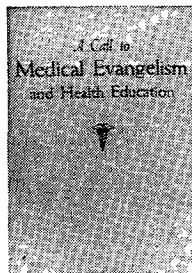
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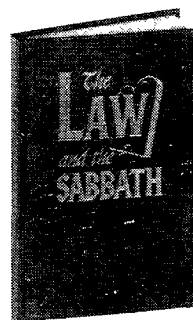
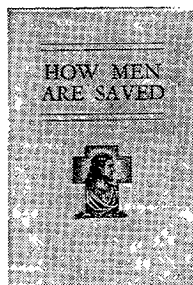
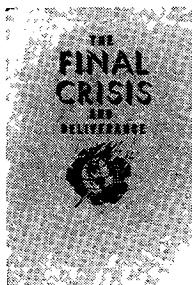
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Mayor of San Francisco Addresses Conference

(Continued from page 65)

brotherhood, practiced by all peoples the world over.

These times through which we are now passing present a challenge to society; they present a challenge to the individual; but I believe that most of all they present a challenge to religion. We know that there has been a spirit of materialism, a spirit of cynicism, and in some parts of the world, a spirit almost of despair following World War II and the Korean conflict. And now the sky is darkened again with storm clouds over Indochina. It is a tragic turn of events that after the nations of the world spilled their blood and spent their treasure to achieve freedom, new dangers now threaten the peace of the world and the freedom that the Architect of the universe has built deep into every human being.

Human freedom is a delicate and a precious thing. And the essential freedom is this: That every man should remain free to worship his Creator according to the best dictates of his intelligence and conscience.

I hope that this convention will bring you the inspiration to proclaim again the fact that man does not live by bread alone; the fact that no tyrant, no dictator, however powerful, however ruthless, can stamp out of the human soul its freedom to seek and to worship the Creator. This nation was built by men with a deep and burning faith in a power above and beyond themselves. This nation, and all free nations, we hope and pray, will be saved

by men with the same strong and invincible faith in their right to worship their Creator as they see fit to do.

May this convention be abundantly blessed, and may it be most inspiring and successful. San Francisco is proud and happy that you have chosen this city for your convention.

High Lights of the Day

(Continued from page 63)

The second program was to be a portrayal of the story of the conversion of Penny Edwards (Mrs. Ralph Winters), former Hollywood star, and of her husband, Ralph Winters, a casting director. Pastor Fagal introduced them to the audience.

At 4:35 the Faith for Today singers opened the second half-hour program. The story was cast with participants other than the principals involved. It featured the purchase of a Bible by Mrs. Winters and of its profound influence on her life. Her rejection of a new movie contract followed in a natural course. In an interview of Mr. and Mrs. Winters by Pastor Fagal later in the program the details were filled out. Bible study led to prayer and the study of the doctrines held by Seventh-day Adventists. She and her husband studied together *Drama of the Ages*, by W. H. Branson and confess to a complete change of heart. Breaking her movie contract was not easy, but she was sustained by the text in Mark 8:36: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" They are happy in the faith with their six-months-old baby.

The Faith for Today quartet concluded the telecast with the gospel song, "When I Come to the End of the Road," and "Lo, Jesus Comes."

Both programs will appear on the regular Faith for Today telecast May 30 and June 6 respectively.

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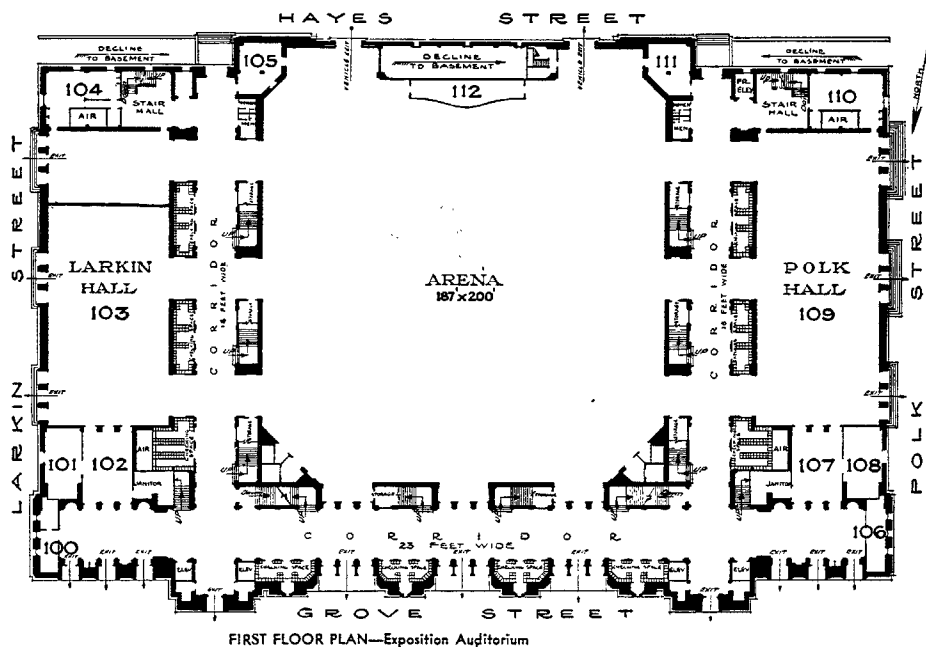
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FIRST FLOOR PLAN—Exposition Auditorium

The Layout of the Civic Auditorium

By Merwin R. Thurber

The reports of the General Conference will doubtless make occasional reference to the physical aspects of the Civic Auditorium and readers should know a little at least about the various halls and committee rooms. A glance at the accompanying picture of the first- and second-floor plans will show you that the arena is in a square. As you stand at the back facing the platform, Polk Street and Polk Hall are at your right; Larkin Street and Larkin Hall are at your left. These two streets are the direction finders for most delegates.

Polk Hall is furnished with seats as an auditorium and used for special public meetings or large committees. Larkin Hall, on the opposite side of the building, is traditionally the "meet" place. Here friends can get together for a chat. Only a very few chairs are scattered about, for most of the space is used by people—people in large numbers. One third of Larkin Hall is occupied by the bookstand operated by the Pacific Press. Also at about the center of the room is a large revolving lighted globe showing the work of Seventh-day Adventists around the world. Such points of interest serve as guideposts to the lost or confused. In a fairly large room immediately behind Larkin Hall—on the diagram—the stenographers for the session are at work. The stenographers who transcribe the proceedings from records are in a walled-off section of the corridor on the Polk Street side of the building. Clear to the front of the building on the same side the Bureau of Press Relations has a suite of offices, and close by is the emergency first-aid station. In the front hall is a post office, where delegates may receive their mail. Room 111 on the Polk Street side is the editorial office of THE REVIEW AND HERALD.

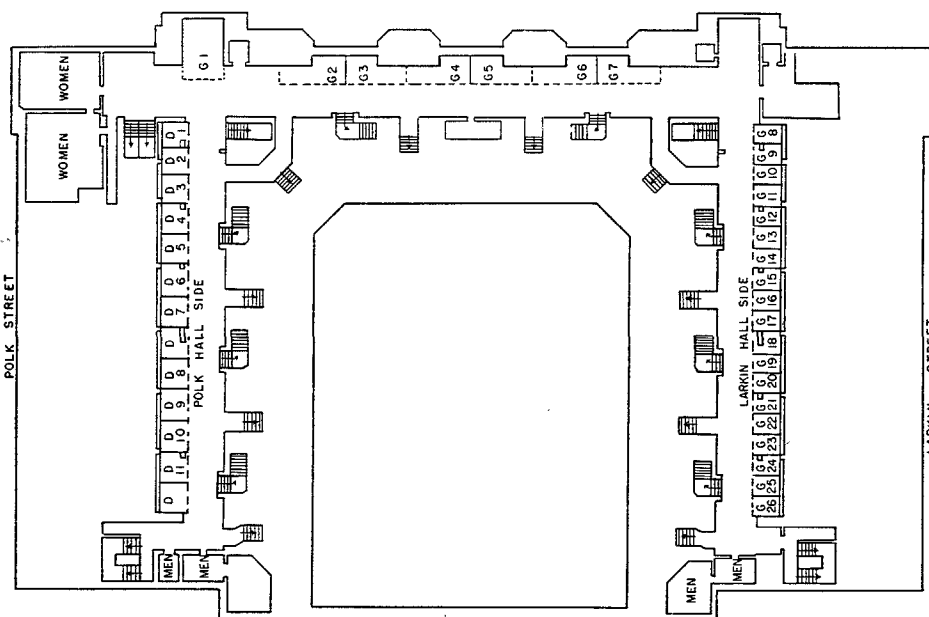
The second-floor corridor has been

traditionally used for exhibits. Here the various departments of the General Conference and mission fields have space for displays representing their work. The diagram will make this plain. The exhibits are a story in themselves and will be discussed in another article.

On the third and fourth floors—above Larkin Hall and Polk Hall—are small auditoriums and committee rooms, many of which are used frequently during the session. They are designated by number.

Additional focal points are the radio and television office on second floor, the front corner, Larkin Street side; the treasurer's office, second floor, back corner, Larkin Street side; the office of the General Conference secretaries, room 105.

In the offices and committee rooms of this expansive Civic Auditorium the business of the forty-seventh session is daily being carried on.



Second floor plan, Civic Auditorium, with special display rooms.

Nixon Wires Congratulations to Faith for Today

At the Faith for Today telecast in the Civic Auditorium on Wednesday afternoon, May 26, E. R. Walde, secretary of the radio and television department, read the following telegram to Pastor Falgal, of Faith for Today, from the Honorable Richard Nixon, Vice-President of the United States:

W A FAGAL
PASTOR FAITH FOR TODAY
108-43 71ST AVENUE
FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO EXTEND MY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE TAKING PART IN AND VIEWING THIS FAITH FOR TODAY PROGRAM IN CELEBRATION OF ITS FOURTH YEAR OF TELEVISION. THERE NEVER HAS BEEN A TIME IN THE HISTORY OF OUR NATION WHEN SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE TO ALL OF US WAS OF GREATER IMPORTANCE, AND FAITH FOR TODAY DESERVES OUR CONGRATULATIONS AND GRATITUDE FOR THE PART IT HAS PLAYED IN CALLING CONSTANT ATTENTION TO THE HIGH SPIRITUAL AND MORAL PRINCIPLES WHICH ARE THE FOUNDATION FOR THE GREATNESS OF AMERICA. ONLY AS THOSE PRINCIPLES CONTINUE TO GOVERN OUR LIVES WILL THIS COUNTRY INCREASE IN STRENGTH AND GOODNESS. SIGNED: RICHARD NIXON

"God is love," is written upon every opening bud, upon every spire of springing grass. The lovely birds making the air vocal with their happy songs, the delicately tinted flowers in their perfection perfuming the air, the lofty trees of the forest with their rich foliage of living green,—all testify to the tender, fatherly care of our God, and to His desire to make His children happy.—*Steps to Christ*, p. 11.